

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



**2nd ANNUAL  
COZY SOUPS FOR FALL**

Come and bring your friends to the  
Old Stone Church Kitchen

**Saturday, October 21st, 11am-2pm**  
Made by our own church members.

Choose from: Butternut Squash,  
Chicken Vegetable, Corn Chowder,  
French Onion, Lentil, 16 Bean Soup,  
Split Pea, or White Bean with Ham  
**Proceeds go to feed the hungry at  
the Center for Food Action.**



**Calendar**

Worship - Sundays at 10am  
Old Stone Church

Bible Study & Lunch Bunch  
Wednesdays at 11am in the  
Lounge

Sew & Sew Group  
Friday, October 6 at 12 noon  
in the Lounge

Consistory Meeting  
Wednesday, October 11th at  
6:15pm in the Lounge

Sew & Sew Group  
Friday, October 20

Cozy Soups for Fall  
Saturday, October 21  
11am-2pm

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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## October 2023 Lectionary Year A

### October 1 - Communion Rev. Leah Ennis-Gasero Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7;  
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16;  
Philippians 2:1-13;  
Matthew 21:23-32

### October 8 Rev. Sanjiv Kattakola Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20;  
Psalm 19;  
Philippians 3:4b-14;  
Matthew 21:33-46

### October 15 Rev. Roland Ratmeyer Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14;  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23;  
Philippians 4:1-9;  
Matthew 22:1-14

### October 22 Rev. Sandi Masters Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23;  
Psalm 99;  
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew  
22:15-22

### October 29 Rev. Mel Van Hattam Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 34:1-12;  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17;  
1 Thessalonians 2:1-8;  
Matthew 22:34-46



WEEKLY Bible Study/Lecture: Meets every Wednesday at 11am in the Lounge followed by the “Lunch Bunch” from 12:15-1pm. Come and join this group of men and women who meet every

Wednesday at 11AM in the lounge to learn about the Bible. We talk about the words of Jesus and how they affect our hearts and our lives. We hear about Elijah (fire on the mountain), and Jonah (the whale story), and Naomi (quite the mother-in-law). Our leader, James Jones, teaches us about geography of the area, the mountains and rivers, the Roman roads, and how they affected life at that time. Studying the Bible in a group opens up questions and insights that we would never see on our own. Join us. You don't have to say a word. Just being there yourself adds to the spirit of the group. Let your mind experience the peace and love to be found here every week. If you like, you can bring a sandwich. After the lesson we move to the table to eat, relax and chat. There is no pressure. We understand if you just need to be on your way. †



As a community we have experienced God's love. Because of God's love, we love one another. We care for one another and our community. We believe we are at our best when we serve our community. Bible study, fellowship groups, monetary donations, social ministry donations, worship and the sacraments, a place of rest and care for grieving families, and by providing a place for preschool in our community we care for others. Out of our care for others, we give generously what we have away. We give because so much has been given to us. We are faithful stewards of God's gifts and know we will make an impact in our community. You will hear from the Deacons in October leading up to Consecration Sunday in November. This stewardship season, be a part of giving by making a pledge of support to continue this life-giving work in our church family and in our community.

## October Missions Offering

The Deacons will be collecting funds during October for **Hawai'i Community Foundation - Maui Strong Fund**. The **Maui Strong Fund** is providing financial resources that can be deployed quickly, with a focus on rapid response and recovery for the **devastating wildfires on Maui**. HCF is working in close collaboration with state and county leaders, nonprofit organizations, and community members to get an understanding of the quickly evolving priorities. Funding will support evolving needs, including shelter, food, financial assistance, and other services as identified by their partners doing critical work on **Maui**.



You can give to this ministry in person **during Sunday morning worship** (please make checks payable to Saddle River Reformed Church and designate as Mission of the Month) 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/>



## RCA Restructuring Team Roundtable Meetings This Fall Seek To Engage And Gather More Feedback

The restructuring team will be hosting another round of roundtable events this fall in order to gather feedback on the second draft of their proposals. Dates and locations for the fall roundtable events are now posted on the RCA website. These gatherings are open to everyone who is a part of the RCA. Please consider this your invitation to join the in-person event that is most convenient to you or the denomination-wide virtual event on January 8.

- November 19, 2:00-5:00 p.m., NBTS' Sage Library, New Brunswick, New Jersey
- January 8, 8:00-10:00 p.m. Eastern, denomination-wide virtual meeting



## Prayer for St. Francis of Assisi

Most high, omnipotent good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy. O God, you have made us and all living things. You are even more wonderful than what you have made. We thank you for giving us these pets who bring us joy. As you take care of us, so also we ask your help that we might take care of those who trust us to look after them. By doing this, we share in your own love for all creation. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen. *(source: The Episcopal Church, St. Francis Day Resources)*



**Rusty Geiger**



**Cooper Baer**



**Lizzie Lowden**



**Gowanlea Yeomans**



**Sigmund  
Sullivan-Zimet**



**Sophie  
Sullivan-Zimet**



**Delilah  
Sullivan-Zimet**

## Sign Restoration

One of the fire codes violations for the Sanctuary was not having the street address displayed on East Saddle River Road. James Jones restored the church sign and included the street numbers. It looks terrific!!!



## Woods Cleanup

It is a violation in the town of Upper Saddle River to have downed trees on the property. There are a couple of acres of undeveloped land around the education building and parsonage. One of our neighbors complained about the downed trees, ground cover, and trash that had blown into these areas. A recent college graduate was paid to walk the area to remove all trash. We had a tree company come through to remove all the large tree trunks and chip the smaller branches into ground cover. Without any areas for standing water, we are caring for our neighbors by not having areas where mosquitos and insects can nest. We hope this will encourage additional tree growth in these areas. And it all looks great!





## 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 and code enforcement official who has been working his way through the town to bring the various buildings up to code. We were cited for over 20 violations. New signage and repairs to our Education Building and Sanctuary 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 replaced 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.

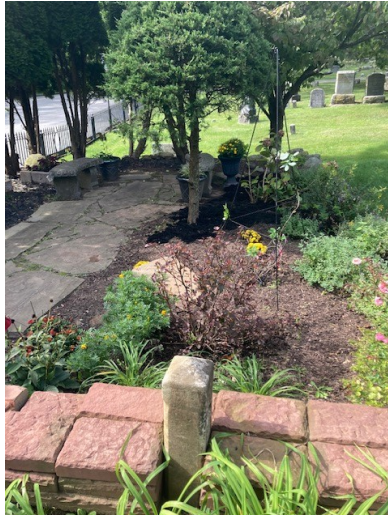
In Christ's Name,

Your Consistory  
Members



## Memorial Garden Photos

Thank you Eileen Jones for your green thumb!!!



## After Worship Church Socials

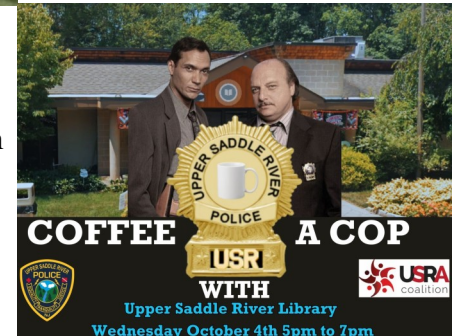
There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the sanctuary for Sunday Iced Tea Socials. They are weekly, immediately following the service and provide us with a chance to chat and catch up with our church family while enjoying a treat or two (or three!).

## Community Announcements



**BCUA Document Shredding, Electronics, Tire Recycling Event and Unwanted Medication Dates:** The Bergen County Utility Authority will sponsor this event on Sunday, Oct. 1, 2023 at Bergen County Campgaw Mountain Reservation, 200 Campgaw Road, Mahwah, NJ. Collection hours are 9 a.m.-2 p.m., rain or shine. This event is for Bergen County residents, ID required. Discard your unwanted and expired over-the-counter and prescription medications in a secured Project Medicine Drop box. Bring medication in original containers or a sealed bag. Sharps and liquids not accepted.

**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 will meet in the **Coffee Room of the church building (100 Island Rd)**. We will meet every other Tuesday through June. **The dates for October are 10/3, 10/17, and 10/31.**



**USR Cares Invites USR Seniors to Lunch:** Join us for lunch at the USR Library, catered by Uncle Giuseppe's before the Library's screening of movies the first Thursday of each month. Interested seniors should rsvp to USR Cares one week prior to each lunch at [usrcares@gmail.com](mailto:usrcares@gmail.com) or 201-7491615. Information about USR Cares is available at [www.usrcares.com](http://www.usrcares.com).



**HiTOPS Faith Initiative  
SAVE THESE DATES:  
October 6 and October 13  
from 12 noon-1:30pm on  
Zoom**

FOCUS ON FAITH AND  
GENDER: Sponsored by RCHP  
Care Committee and HiTops  
Faith Initiative

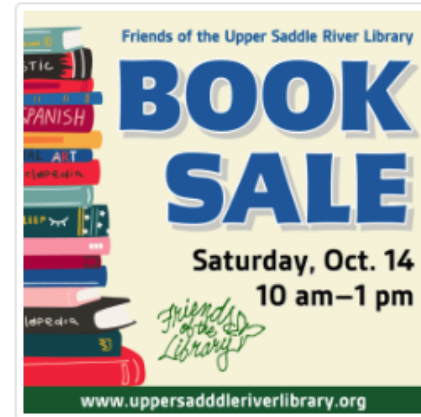
ALL ARE WELCOME! Sign  
up for Zoom Link with church  
secretary, Lisa Berman,  
reformedchurchhp@gmail.com.  
The HiTOPS Faith Initiative  
seeks to build affirming spaces  
within faith communities for  
LGBTQ+ youth and their  
families. We invite you to  
participate in a two-part series  
on October 6 and 13 that  
focuses on gender and sexuality  
and addresses theological  
concepts and scriptural  
references often used against  
members of the LGBTQ+  
community. We also provide  
stories we've collected that  
share people's lived experiences  
within faith communities. The  
Faith Initiative series creates a  
non-judgmental space with  
opportunities for questions,  
concrete examples of  
welcoming congregations, and  
enhances your journey of  
becoming an affirming  
community.

This training will be facilitated  
by Deborah Jodrey and Thomas  
Foley. Deborah Jodrey (she/her)  
is a graduate of Princeton

Theological Seminary and has  
been consulting with HiTOPS  
for over a year developing and  
piloting this training. Deborah  
also works as a Director of Faith  
Formation at a congregation in  
PA and is passionate about  
creating spaces of belonging  
within faith  
communities. Thomas (he/they)  
is the Senior Education  
Manager at HiTOPS and is a  
former classroom teacher, a  
certified school counselor, and a  
licensed therapist. He is  
working toward his PhD in  
Counselor Education and  
Supervision and has a  
considerable amount of  
experience researching and  
working with youth, particularly  
with queer and trans youth.

**2023 USR Oktoberfest –  
Saturday October 7, 2023:**  
The Borough of Upper Saddle  
River and USR Cares is  
sponsoring the 2023  
Oktoberfest on Saturday,  
October 7, 2023 at Lion's Park  
from Noon – 5:00 pm. Live  
Music, Local Vendors, Gourmet  
Food, Hayride, Rides,  
Biergarten and more! A great  
family event, not to be missed!

**USR GARBAGE AND  
RECYCLING  
COLLECTIONS  
Curbside Bulky Trash:  
Friday, October 13, 2023**



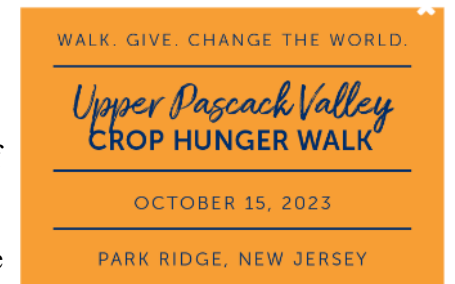
**USR Historical Society At the  
Hopper-Goetschius House  
Museum  
Harvest Festival, Sat., Oct. 14,  
1-4 p.m.**

Come watch the Apple Cider  
Pressing, tap your toes to the  
Blue Grass Band, and enjoy  
tours of the house, craft demos  
including the blacksmith at his  
forge, children's games, grilled  
food and more.

**Wed., Nov. 1, 12 noon,**  
luncheon at Ramsey Country  
Club with lecture by Dr.  
William Ferraro, Managing  
Editor of The Papers of George  
Washington at the University of  
Virginia. He will speak on  
Washington's leadership  
marching from New York to the  
Yorktown siege. For  
information, visit our website:  
usrhistoricalsociety.org. Email:  
usrhistoricalsociety@gmail.com



**Household Hazardous Waste:**  
There will be a Household  
Hazardous Waste Collection on  
Sunday, October 15th, at  
Bergen Community College,  
400 Paramus Road, Paramus,  
NJ. The collection hours are 9  
a.m.-3 p.m., rain or shine. Drop  
off is free of charge for Bergen  
County residents. Visit  
www.bcua.org for additional  
information.



**Upper Pascack Valley CROP Hunger  
Walk**

Sunday, October 15, 2023

CROP Hunger Walk  
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

**Adult Walk In Health Clinic:**  
Thursday, October 26, 2023  
from noon-1 p.m. at Borough  
Hall. No program in November  
(Thanksgiving).

**USR Brush Pickup:** Bundled  
brush pickup will run through  
October 31, 2023. Bundles must  
be tied and able to be lifted  
overhead into a truck. No larger  
than 4" in diameter or greater  
than 5' in length.

**USR 5K Run – Thursday,  
November 23, 2023:** Mark  
your calendars. The USR 5K  
Race will be held Thanksgiving  
morning, November 23, 2023.  
More information will follow  
on our website [www.usr5k.org](http://www.usr5k.org).  
If you are interested in being a  
sponsor or volunteer for the  
event, please contact Race  
Director Ed Gartner at  
[usrrecreation@aol.com](mailto:usrrecreation@aol.com).

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.



**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 approved a 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.



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 NOVEMBER newsletter please email the church office at [srrcoffice@verizon.net](mailto:srrcoffice@verizon.net).

## October Birthdays & Anniversaries

Chandler Moore	10/1
Norm McGowan	10/2
Sue Tudisco	10/4
Vincent Dente	10/5
Susan Keller	10/7
Jean Toppel	10/8
Jagger Conklin	10/11
Jamie Peters	10/17
Joey Grey	10/21
Katie Tudisco	10/23
Kyle Baer	10/25
Curt Baer	10/26
Debra Davis	10/26
Katie Grey	10/26
Stephanie Peet	10/26
Michelle Peters	10/28
Lynn Snider	10/30
Sarah & Randy DiPaolo	10/4
Hal & Suzanne Peters	10/18
Stephanie & Mike Doyle	10/23

Any updates or additions, please email the church office at [srrcoffice@verizon.net](mailto:srrcoffice@verizon.net)

**Saddle River Reformed Church**

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**Old Stone Church**  
500 East Saddle River Road  
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458  
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