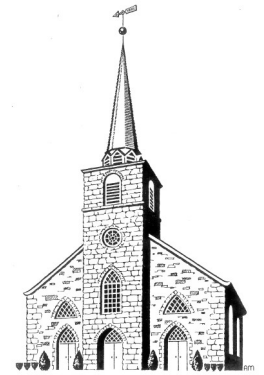


Saddle River Reformed Church worshiping at Old Stone Church

October 2024



Calendar

Worship - Sundays at 10am
Old Stone Church

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

Sew 'n' Sews Group
Friday, October 4 at 12noon in
the Lounge

Consistory Meeting
Wednesday, October 9 at
6:15pm in the Lounge

Sew 'n' Sews Group
Friday, October 18 at 12noon

3rd Annual
Cozy Soups for Fall
Saturday, October 26
11am-2pm

3rd Annual Cozy Soups for Fall Saturday, October 26 11am-2pm

Enjoy homemade soups at the
Old Stone Church Kitchen...
butternut squash, French onion,
and many more!
Eat in or take out!

**Proceeds to feed the hungry at
the Center for Food Action!**



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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Lectionary Year B October 2024

October 6 - Communion World Communion Sunday 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Job 1:1, 2:1-10
Psalm 26
Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 8
Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12
Mark 10:2-16

October 13 Clergy Appreciation Day Disability Awareness Sunday 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
Psalm 90:12-17
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

October 20

Laity Sunday Peace with Justice Sunday 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)
Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c
Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45 38

October 27 Reformation Sunday 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Job 42:1-6, 10-17
Psalm 34:1-8, (19-22)
Jeremiah 31:7-9
Psalm 126
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 10:46-52

New Bible Study

Forming: Are you interested in studying God's Word? Pastor Leah would like to form an evening study for those who are unable to attend daytime studies. Speak with Pastor Leah today.



Pastor's Page

Trust the Seeds That Are Being Planted October 2024

Autumn is my favorite season of the year. No, I don't love the allergy aspect. But my soul comes alive with the brilliance of colors and crispness of air. I confess that I find Pumpkin Spice anything overrated, but I do love autumn.

There is so much in the world around us that seems to be falling, decaying, and even dying. It is easy to succumb to despair and pessimism. Autumn reminds us that all of the "falling" that is going on around us is full of promise – even if we can't see it. Autumn reminds us that hidden beneath the surface, seeds are being planted, leaves are being composted, and new life is being prepared. Could it be that possibility and something infinitely richer is being planted in the soil of our souls, even now, in this new exciting, growing-pain trust-building season of our life together?

Barbara Brown Taylor wrote, "...New life starts in the dark. Whether it is a seed in the ground, a baby in the womb, or Jesus in the tomb, it starts in the dark. New life always starts in the dark."

Parker Palmer suggests seasons are trustworthy guides for our spiritual lives: "Autumn is a season of great beauty, but it is also a season of decline: The days grow shorter, the light is suffused, and summer's abundance decays toward winter's death. Faced with inevitable winter, what does nature do in autumn? She scatters the seeds that will bring new growth in the spring – and scatters them with amazing abandon."

In my own experience of autumn, I am rarely aware that seeds are being planted. Instead, my mind is on the fact that the green growth of summer is browning and beginning to die. As I explore autumn's paradox of dying and seeding, I feel the power of metaphor. In the autumnal events of my own experience, I am easily fixated on surface appearances – on the decline of meaning, the decay of relationships, the death of a work. And yet, if I look more deeply, I may see the myriad possibilities being planted to bear fruit in some season yet to come.



In retrospect, I can see in my own life what I could not see at the time – how the job I lost helped me find work I needed to do, how the ‘road closed’ sign turned me toward terrain I needed to travel, how losses that felt irredeemable forced me to discern meanings I needed to know. On the surface, it seemed life was lessening, but silently and lavishly the seeds of new life were always being sown...

In the visible world of nature, a great truth is concealed in plain sight: diminishment and beauty, darkness and light, death and life are not opposites. They are held together in the paradox of ‘hidden wholeness.’

I encourage you to be present to the sheer beauty and falling of autumn. Find a beautiful leaf that has fallen to the ground, and hold the leaf in your hand. Be reminded that deep down – even now – new life is being prepared. In the dying, what seeds of new life are being planted in your life and in our life together for a season yet to come?

After being present in the Upper Saddle River, only time will tell where our wonderful journey together will lead. I will pray for every one of you! I ask that you pray for me and my family too. I will also continue to discern where the Spirit is leading us in this ministry together.

Please don’t offer me a Pumpkin Spice Latte when you stop by the office, or I visit you on a pastoral care visit. (Chocolate and Hot cocoa are always welcome!)

I do encourage us to gather for worship this fall in this season of our common life together that seems unknown, unsure, and yet hopeful. May our faith, and trust be strengthened by the promise that new life always begins in the darkness and change. May we not be fixated on surface appearances but encourage each other to look more deeply and trust the seeds that are being planted for a season yet to come.

I am grateful to serve you and serve with you,

Pastor Leah Ennis-Gasero

Email: pastorleah.oldstone@gmail.com // Cell: 518-366-6771
Pastor Leah is off Mondays. She will ONLY respond to pastoral emergencies on her day off, should they arise.
Regular Hours: Tu & Fri- By Appointment // W & Th 9am-1pm

Save the Date - You are invited to:

**Pastor Leah’s Installation as Saddle River
Reformed Church’s Minister of Word and
Sacrament, Sunday, November 3 at 3pm with
reception to follow**



October Missions Offering

The Deacons will be collecting funds during October for the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP). Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) began in 2003 as a small, grassroots effort providing simple care and comfort items to the hospital bedsides of the first wounded service members returning home from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. As their post-service needs evolved, so have our programs and services. Today, through their direct programs in mental health, career counseling, and long-term rehabilitative care, along with our advocacy efforts, they improve the lives of millions of warriors and their families.

This effort requires the passion and commitment of friends, supporters, and like-minded organizations that enable them to fulfill our mission. With their collaboration and support, they strive to ensure that when those who serve come home, they're afforded every opportunity to be as successful as a civilian as they were in the military.



WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT®

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/>

Join Pastor Leah and other community members at the USR Library, on Wednesday, October 2nd from 5p-7p. It's a good way to meet our local police as well as share (and hear) the needs of the community in which we serve.

A promotional poster for a 'Coffee with a Cop' event. The background is dark with a spotlight effect. At the top, the text 'COFFEE WITH A COP' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. Below it, in smaller yellow text, is 'With the Upper Saddle River Police Department'. In the center, a police officer in a dark uniform stands looking up at a black mug with a yellow Batman logo that is floating in the air. To the right of the officer is the Upper Saddle River Police Department badge, which features a shield with a scale of justice and the words 'UPPER SADDLE RIVER POLICE', 'EQUALITY', 'TRANQUILITY', 'JUSTICE', and 'N.J.'. In the bottom right corner, the text 'Upper Saddle River Library' and 'Wednesday October 2nd 5pm to 7pm' is written in yellow. At the very bottom left is the USRA coalition logo, which consists of a stylized red and white figure next to the text 'USRA coalition'.

Register now for the 2024 Mark Kraai Lecture



Save the date!

THE 2024 MARK KRAAI LECTURE

An annual lecture series focusing on issues concerning the practice of ministry

Theological & Practical Principles on Community Development

Saturday • October 26, 2024 @ 9:00 am–3:00 pm
NBTS • 35 Seminary Place, New Brunswick NJ

This symposium is crafted to inspire & equip faith-based organizations with knowledge, tools, & strategies essential to contribute to the redevelopment of communities in the Garden State.



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr.
President and CEO
Corporate Community Connections, Inc.

Admission is free, but registration is required
For more information or to Register, visit:
nbts.edu/kraai2024



Presenting Partners



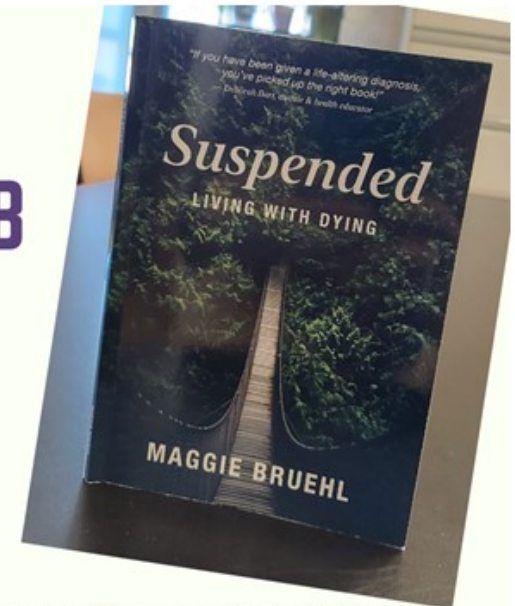
35 Seminary Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 • 732.247.5241
www.nbts.edu • fb.me/f1784nbts • [@nbts1784](https://twitter.com/nbts1784)

Please join us for the 2024 Mark Kraai Lecture: Theological & Practical Principles on Community Development
October 26 @ 9:00 am - 3:00 pm • Eastern



BOOK CLUB

"Suspended: Living With Dying"
Book Group Interest Form



Join NJIC3 as we explore Maggie Bruehl's memoir, "Suspended: Living With Dying." Written with thoughtfulness, grace, and humor, the book tells the story of her lengthy cancer journey and lessons learned along the way. Maggie shares her story in brief, easily read chapters filled with personal anecdotes, philosophical ponderings, and stories of love and courage.

The book club will meet via Zoom twice a month for a series of eight meetings. If you'd like to join the group, please visit <https://rebrand.ly/NJIC3-LWD-book-club> or scan the QR code above. You'll be taken to a form with more details and you'll be asked to provide information that will help determine the time and day that the group will meet. Email Austin at austin.njic3@improvingnj.org with questions not answered on the form.

WEEKLY Bible Lecture

On Wednesdays at 11am, Mr. James Jones leads us in a bible lecture. He teaches on a variety of topics and discussions. A short Q & A time follows the lecture. Around noon, everyone joins in fellowship over a Bring-Your-Own-Lunch. You are welcome to hear new perspectives on scripture and everyday life.



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!).



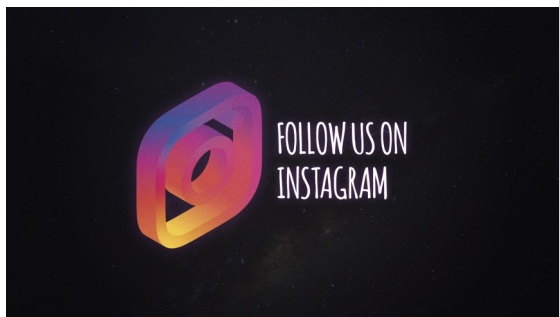
Website and Social Media

Have you checked out our website or social media feeds recently? There are new postings several times a week on Facebook and Instagram. Be sure to check them out and follow and/or give us a “like.”

Website: <https://oldstonechurchonline.org/>

Facebook: **Old Stone/Saddle River Reformed Church**

Instagram: **oldstonechurchnj**



Community Announcements

Friends of the Upper Saddle River Library Book Sale - October 5th from 10am-1pm

Coming soon! **Order your free COVID-19 Tests at the end of September 2024.**

U.S. households will be eligible to order 4 free COVID-19 tests at **COVIDTests.gov**. The COVID-19 Tests will detect current COVID-19 variants and can be used through the end of the year.

Save the Date

Thursday, October 17th

48TH ANNUAL FALL FUNDRAISER

On Thursday, October 17th [join us](#) at the **Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe** to celebrate CFA's mission. We promise an unforgettable evening filled with dinner, drinks, desserts and more!

Be inspired by our keynote speaker, Katie Martin, (PhD.) the visionary author of *Reinventing Food Banks and Pantries: New Tools to End Hunger*.

Network with community leaders and changemakers while savoring a gourmet dining experience and celebrate our honorees who ignite change in your local community. [Mark your calendars and join us for a night of celebration, inspiration, and impact!](#)



Katie Martin's goal is to advance organizational and systematic change in the charitable food system to ensure people have economic and nutrition security. She is recognized as a thought leader on food security issues, and has over 25 years of experience developing and evaluating programs to promote health, stability and financial wellbeing.



WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

Upper Pascack Valley
CROP HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 20, 2024

PARK RIDGE, NEW JERSEY

Upper Pascack Valley CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 20, 2024

CROP Hunger Walk
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

Senior HelpLine
(201) 336-7400

A service of the
Aging and Disability Resource Connection
(ADRC)

Bergen County
Department of Human Services
Division of Senior Services



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 Hearty Soups, Canned Vegetables & Fruits, Diapers Sizes 4, 5, 6, Pasta, White & Brown Rice, Dried Beans, Baby Formula, Bar or Bottle Soap, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Tomato Sauce, Canned Meat & Fish, Canned Pastas, Stews, & Chilis, Canned Tomatoes, and Low Sugar Cereal.

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.

UPPER SADDLE RIVER
PROUD TO BE
STIGMA-FREE

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



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

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

Saddle River Reformed Church

worshiping at
Old Stone Church
500 East Saddle River Road
Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458
201-327-5242
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www.OldStoneChurchOnline.org

