

The lighted candle in the Church Steeple will shine perpetually as a beacon of God's strength. This light reflects our prayers for peace, here and abroad. To help defray the cost of keeping the lights lit, donations are greatly appreciated.



Old Stone Church

Church Office 203-467-2907 (fax ext. 111)

Office Hours: M-Th 9 am—3 pm

Pastor

Rev. Mark Pilletere, M. Div. Ext 102

Office Manager

Heidi Manley Ext 101

Minister of Music

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D.

Early Learning Center 203-467-0661

Jennifer Calonico, Director / Kim Oca, Assistant Director

ELC Hours: M-F 7:30 am—5:15 pm Office hours 8:30 am—1:30 pm

Old Stone Village 203-467-0661 ext 2

OSCV Hours: 6:30am—6:30 pm

Nicole Ferrigno, Director / Kristen Sartor, Assistant Director

Thrift Shop 203-467-2907 Ext 107

Saturdays from 10 am—3 pm

First Congregational Church of East Haven
United Church of Christ
Old Stone Church
251 Main Street
East Haven, Ct 06512



E-mail: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

Website: www..oldstonechurchucceasthaven.org

The Herald

January 2022

Upcoming Dates

Happy
New
Year

OUR Sanctuary is open for service or church services can be viewed on Facebook

Previous Sunday services can be seen on local cable station 18 "ETV"



Do you have an idea to share with others? How about a simple tip for everyday life? Perhaps a word of inspiration?

Should you want to see something in the next Herald, or have an idea or comment, please call the office, Mon—Thurs. 9am—3pm at 203-467-2907 or email to: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

To sponsor a Herald mailing, please call the office.

From the desk of Rev. Mark Pilletere...

Warm New Year Greetings!

As we embark upon a New Year, once again, we find that we are still dealing with this Pandemic. But, as you know, the entire world is going through much of the same.

I don't know about you, but perhaps there was a sense of hope last year at this time that as we turned the page on 2020, this would all be behind us within a few months. But that's not the case despite man's best efforts of masks, vaccines, and mandates!

While humanity can only do what we can in our strength, I want to remind you today that God is still on the Throne regardless of where we have been or where we are going!

There is a wonderful verse of scripture which serves as a reminder of who God is found in Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last."

While we cannot possibly know what the future holds, we know who holds the future! We are not even gifted enough to know what tomorrow will bring to us, but as Christians, we need to rest assured that God does!

When I understand just a bit of how much God loves me, it puts my mind at ease about His plans and purposes.

This New Year will unfold as God has planned it to happen. Not one thing will take place that does not first sift through the loving hands of an almighty God.

There are many times I don't understand the ways of God, but that's really not something we should concern ourselves with. We must only trust Him!

Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

Moving forward into this New Year, I want to encourage you to live your life to the glory of God. We can live in confidence and not timidity! We can live our lives in boldness and assurance because God is on the Throne!

There's a beautiful song written by Bill Gaither many years ago, and the lyrics are as powerful today (maybe more so) as when they were written:

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.

Because He lives, all fear is gone.

Because I know, yes I know, He holds the future.

This life is worth the living, just because He lives!

Keep God first in this New Year, and you will be amazed at the things God will do in you, through you, and for you!

In Christ,

Pr. Mark

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<u>Ongoing Programs</u> Worship (S) 10am		<i>Happy New Year</i>		<u>Ongoing Programs</u> Boy Scouts (BSR) 7 Mahjong (P) 12-30 Choir (S) 7pm		1 <u>Ongoing Programs</u> Thrift Shop 10-3pm Childbirth Classes (P) 9am-noon
2 New Member and Baptism	3	4	5	6 Griffin Health COVID vacc. Clinic 4pm-7pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Griffin Health COVID vacc. Clinic 4pm-7pm	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Griffin Health COVID vacc. Clinic 4pm-7pm	21	22 Reserved Party (FH)
23 Confirmation Class 11:15 am (PS)	24	25	26	27 Griffin Health COVID vacc. Clinic 4pm-7pm	28	29
30	31					

January Birthdays

1/01 Jennifer Calonico
 1/03 Eric Izzo
 1/03 Brittany Torello
 1/05 Avery LaPia
 1/05 Rachel Korwek
 1/06 Frank Chasney
 1/06 Shane Crawford
 1/10 Sean Landers
 1/11 Carol Culmo
 1/12 Heidi Manley
 1/13 Cheyenne Clark
 1/16 David Moon, Jr.
 1/20 Tracey Candelli
 1/25 Stephanie Kilburn
 1/26 Stuart Ennever
 1/26 Art Longley
 1/26 Megan Brennan
 1/27 Michael Bilello
 1/27 Joan Messina
 1/28 Kathy LaPia
 1/31 Lori Feola



*Happy
New
Year*

Pastoral Visits in Hospital

Pastoral Visits in the hospital are becoming possible slowly and gradually, with particular guidelines that are changing to reflect the particular hospital's guidelines. If an in-person visit is not possible, telephone visits for prayer and comfort are an alternative, although certainly less than ideal. Please contact Heidi or Pr. Mark, in the office at 203-467-2907, if you anticipate a trip to the hospital or unexpectedly find yourself hospitalized, so Pr. Mark can respond.

Prayer requests

can be sent or called in to the church office at any time. Please send to the church's confidential email: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com or direct to Pastor Mark's confidential email: oldstonepastor@yahoo.com. Pastor Mark will read them aloud on Sunday during service. Should you need a call, please note that in the message.



Steeple Fund-raiser

\$ 35,000.00

25,000.00

15,000.00

5,000.00

THANK YOU!!

1,000.00

500.00

100.00

Congratulations !

Shannon and Bill Celata celebrate the birth of their daughter **Charlotte Elizabeth** on Dec, 28, 2021 at 1:23 pm. 9lbs, 14oz.

We made it through another year! Old Stone Church is better because of all of you!

Remember, God loves you, and so do we.

Happy 2022!



Is there a special event that has or is happening in your life? Send a note or call the church office to share it with your church family. Prayer requests can be submitted on-line or in person. Email to oldstonechurch97@gmail.com or send to Old Stone Church 251 Main Street East Haven, CT 06512

Deacons in charge for the month of January: Helen Wendt and Hope Ryan

What's Cookin'?

Easy Baked Chicken as prepared by Wendy Salmoiraghi and Heidi Manley

Chicken pieces (as proportioned for your crowd) Salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place chicken pieces on sheet pan, sprinkle with salt and pepper. Bake until done.

ENJOY!! *****



Roasted Root Vegetables as prepared by Wendy Salmoiraghi and Heidi Manley

4 Large Carrots	1 head Cauliflower	Garlic Powder
1 small Butternut squash	1 can Beets	Salt and Pepper
1 bag Frozen Chopped Onion and Peppers		1/4 cup Canola Oil

Cut vegetables into bite sized pieces, toss together with Oil, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Mix in 1/4 of the frozen onion and peppers. Save the rest of the bag for a later time. Put on a sheet pan in a single layer. Roast in a 375 degree oven for 20-25 minutes. Serve nice and hot. *****

Hash Brown Potato Casserole as prepared by Wendy Salmoiraghi and Heidi Manley

2 bags Oreida Hash Brown Potatoes	16 oz. Sour Cream
1 box Corn Flakes (crushed)	1 can Cream of Chicken Soup
12 oz. Shredded Cheddar Cheese	1 cup chopped Onions
1 cup Milk	

Spray casserole dish with cooking spray. In a large bowl, combine potatoes, onions, sour cream, soup, milk and cheese. Place into prepared casserole dish.

Layer the top with crushed corn flakes. Bake in a 350 degree oven until golden, brown and delicious. Serves a crowd. *****



Apple Crumb Pie as prepared by Wendy Salmoiraghi and Heidi Manley

3-4 Granny Smith Apples	3-4 Gala Apples	1 Lemon
1 Mandarin Orange	2 Tbsp Flour	1/4 cup Sugar
dash of Salt	1 Prepared pie dough	

Place pie dough into pie dish of your choice. Put aside. Peel and slice apples. Grate lemon and orange, then juice. Mix apples with all ingredients. Pour into prepared pie shell.

TOPPING: 1 cup Oatmeal 1/4 cup Flour 1/4 cup Brown sugar 1 stick cold Butter

Cut butter into small pieces. Place all ingredients in bowl and mix together with a pastry blender until combined. Pile on top of apples evenly.

Bake pie in a 350 degree oven for 60-70 minutes. I place my pie dish on a foil lined baking sheet in case of overflow in oven. Cool on a wire rack before slicing. ENJOY!

Coffee Hour

With life slowly getting back to normal, we would like to bring back Coffee Hour. As we have done in the past, we will begin handing out individually packaged snacks after Sunday service in Fellowship Hall. Please let the Deacons know or sign up for a week to donate a special snack.. We will get back to fellowship in January.



Childcare for our youth during worship is available with volunteers. To sign up for this awesome position, please see Louise Ward or let the Deacon of the month know that you are interested.



Thrift Shop



Do you have 3 hours once a month on a Saturday that you can share?? Come volunteer at the Thrift Shop.

The shop is open 10 am—3 pm every Saturday. So many things to see and do. See anyone of the Thrift Shop volunteers to sign up, or leave your name with the office..

Donations welcome on Saturdays 10-3 pm



Global Outreach

We gave out over \$2000.00 to the East Haven Social Services this year (2021). 7 individuals (Senior Citizens) and 4 families. We gave out presents and gift cards to the 4 families and the 7 individuals received each 6 different gift cards for area stores, Stop and Shop, Shop Rite, Walmart and Walgreens. Thank you to all for helping to make the holidays a little brighter for all. God loves you!

Board of Christian Education

The season of Advent has been busy with activities and full of the anticipation to celebrate the birth of the Christ child. An Advent workshop to make Advent wreaths, table décor and pick up a daily Advent calendar was held on Sunday, December 5, 2021 after church. The attendance was great, and we shared a lite brunch.

The Greatest Gift Christmas pageant was held during Sunday morning service on **December 19th**. It was a beautiful script found by Grace Trufan and with the help of Carrie and Grace Bast, Cheyenne Clark and Amy Trufan, it all came together. We had 14 Sunday School students and friends of OSC participate in the traditional nativity story. Pastor Mark was narrator and Dr. Budd and the choir provided Christmas carols to help tell the old-old story. Our Christmas Wassail bowl and cookies were in Fellowship Hall with Pam Standish serving. It certainly got us in the spirit for Christmas.

Confirmation studies will start in January. If you or a youth in your family are interested in joining us, please contact Louise Ward 203-469-6729 or Pastor Mark at the church office 203-467-2907.

Our Bible study group has been using **Because of Bethlehem** by Max Lucado for our Advent gatherings. Pastor Mark is presenting a live program after church each Sunday in the church parlor as well as a Zoom group Sunday evening at 7pm. We are enjoying the prayer time and thoughtful discussion that this book has inspired. We will continue through the winter months in person and/or by Zoom. Thanks to Pastor Mark for his time and leadership.

With great thanks for the church's support of our faith formation activities

Louise Ward



Have a recipe, tip or tidbit that you would like to share in the Herald??

Please send recipe/tidbit and info to
oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

The Down and Dirty (Clean) at OSC Year in Review

2021 had so many things that needed to be done throughout the week and on Sunday mornings. Here is a wrap up of the many friends we caught in the act of getting things done and having fun!



FLOWER COMMITTEE NEWS

How to care for your Christmas Poinsettia

This popular Christmas plant, a native of Mexico, has been bred and improved upon greatly over the past few decades. Once there was only a red variety but today white, pink, and greenish yellow poinsettias are also available. Here are a few tips on how to keep yours happy and healthy through the holidays, and all year.

- Place in a cool, bright location out of direct sun and free from drafts or artificial heat.
- Poinsettias prefer nighttime temperatures of between 55 and 65 degrees, and daytime temps around 70.
- Keep soil moist. Water enough to drain through; check daily and water again when surface becomes dry.



*******Making it bloom again next year*******

Poinsettias can be grown year after year, but they need some special treatment to ensure that they'll bloom properly.

1. When leaves begin to drop, let dry completely
2. In late spring (early May) cut back plant to 6"; shake free of soil and repot in new potting soil; resume regular watering.
3. Place outdoors in a warm, sunny location (minimum 60 degrees)
4. Pinch off tips of new shoots when 6-8" long and again in late July; fertilize every two weeks.
5. Bring indoors before cold nights (early September) and place indoors in full sun.
6. In order for poinsettias to bloom, they must have 14 hours of uninterrupted darkness each day for 40 days (late September through October)
7. Display your poinsettia plant.

Source: The New York Times Book of House Plants, by Joan Lee Faust; Giff Plants, by Jack Kramer; Flowering House Plants, by James Underwood Crockett; Scranton (PA) Times



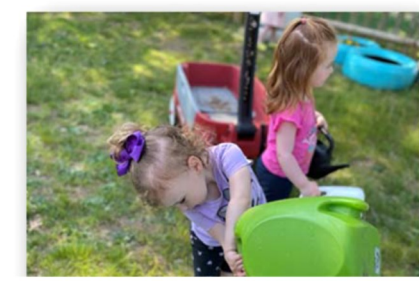
In Local News...

Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast on Jan 17

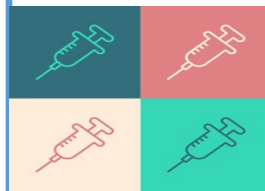
The Annual Re. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. breakfast sponsored by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Heritage Foundation of Branford, will be held in Monday, January 17, at 8:30am. This will be a virtual event. The keynote speakers will be Chris Wilson, author of The Master Plan and Melvin Wilson, founder of Turn Around Tuesday. They will speak about the transition from incarceration to purposeful life in the community, and the importance of forgiveness. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://events.eventgroove.com/event/2022-Branford-MLK-Speaker-Chris-Wilson-57693> for \$15.

Contact Scott Morrow of the North Haven Congregational Church for more information. 203-239-5691

In East Haven, more than 1,200 wreaths were placed on veterans' graves at East Lawn and Green Lawn cemeteries. The event began at 11:30 a.m. Dec. 18th—the same time that the event began at Arlington National Cemetery—on the East Haven Town Green as eight wreaths were placed in honor of each of the branches of service. A color guard was also present.



Clinic Information



East Haven's **Old Stone Church** has partnered with the **East Shore District Health Department (ESDHD)** and **Griffin Health** to offer COVID-19 vaccine clinics in January!

Location: Old Stone Church **No Identification or Insurance Required**

251 Main Street, East Haven

Dates:

- 1/6 (Ages 5-11)
- 1/13 (Ages 12+)
- 1/20 (Ages 12+)
- 1/27 (Ages 5-11)

Vaccine Age Requirements:

- 5-11 Pfizer:** Ages 5-11 need parent/guardian present.
- 12+ Pfizer:** Ages 12-16 need a parent/guardian present, age 17 needs parent/ guardian signature.
- Moderna / Johnson & Johnson available to anyone age 18+**

Time: All Clinics 4 PM – 7 PM

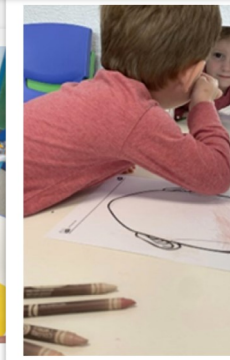
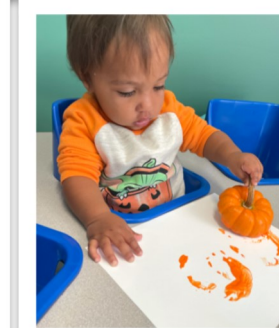
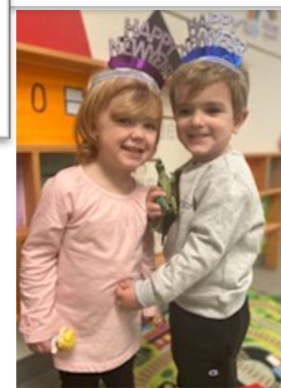
Must be 16+ for booster!

Clinics labeled '12+' will offer: 1st/2nd doses of Pfizer to all ages 12+, ages 16 & 17 can get a Pfizer Booster if needed, ages 18+ can receive any approved dose by CDC of any of the three vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, J&J. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or Booster Doses)

Clinics labeled '5-11' will offer: 1st/2nd doses of pediatric Pfizer only to ages 5-11.

No appointment needed, walk-in's welcome!

Call East Shore District Health Department with any questions! (203) 481-4233



OSC Village Daycare

Happy New Year! During the month of December, our villagers enjoyed using their five senses to explore the holiday season. Every sense was utilized as we investigated smells, tastes, and sounds of this sensory heightened season. However, utilizing our sense of taste was hands down a villager favorite as they were able to sample delicious treats such as gingerbread, hot cocoa, and peppermint. We hope you enjoy the photos below for a few sensory highlights.



We're excited to blast off into 2022 with our village community as we dive into welcoming winter. This month we will expand upon the investigation work we did in December using our five senses. We start this month by focusing on snow. We will build snowmen out of real snow while feeling the cold, icy texture, create our own blizzards, and explore proper warm winter attire. During this week, our villagers will work on identifying and naming essential winter gear used to keep us warm including hats, gloves, scarves, and coats. Our villagers will continue dressing themselves by using the magical coat trick and will practice dressing our beloved baby dolls for a cold winter day.

The next two weeks of January will lead us into learning about Arctic animals. We will spend one week studying Arctic land animals such as Polar Bears, The Arctic Wolf, Snowy Owls, Arctic Hares and Caribou. We will continue to use our senses to discover how these specific animals communicate, the way their fur looks and feels, and how they survive in their Arctic habitat. Next, we will move to Arctic animals of the seas. Throughout this week we will discover Arctic Sea animals such as the Beluga Whale, penguins, Narwhals, Walrus, and Harp seals. We will spend ample time this week engaging in our sensory bins where we will recreate the Arctic habitat with both land and sea animals and lots of ice blocks. This unit will enable our children to understand how cold the Arctic environment is and why these animals have certain adaptations to keep them warm.

After spending two weeks on different Arctic Animals, will begin to learn about animals who aren't able to adapt to live in very cold temperatures so they must hibernate or migrate. During this week we will explore bears, squirrels, birds and butterflies. During this unit our villagers will explore how animals depend upon the environment for food, water and shelter.

We are scheduled to have four new families join our village family during this month, and three new infants scheduled to begin the month of February. All three of these infants have something very special in common. All three are siblings of past and present villagers. It is truly special to be able to grow with our village families. Unfortunately, time flies in our village, and just as we begin welcoming new infants we had to say goodbye to toddlers who've aged out of our program. At the end of December, we had to say goodbye to one of our toddler villagers who graduated to The Early Learning Center. He will be greatly missed, but we know he'll be in good hands with our colleagues from upstairs.

As we grow in size, we continue to be on the hunt for loving, dedicated teachers. If you know anyone who would be interested in working in our Village please contact Nicole Ferrigno at (203) 467-0661 Ext. 2



This Photo by Unknown Author is li-

Old Stone Church Early Learning Center January News 2022

We hope all had a wonderful holiday with family and friends!

The children enjoyed a visit from Santa and a classroom Christmas party. Each classroom made a video of the children singing Christmas songs and poems which you can view on our Facebook page.

This month we will explore winter themes. January is the perfect time to discuss hibernation, arctic animals, snow, and hot cocoa & marshmallows. The children will do snowman art using different materials to paint this is such an enriching experience for the students. The students will be counting marshmallows and marshmallow building will give the students the opportunity to use their imagination to create anything they'd like.

The hallway in the education wing is now decorated for winter with hats, mittens, and ice skates that the children have made with the help of their teacher's.

The ELC was able to purchase a new cabinet and new tables for room 1 and a new CD player and record player for room 2 with the stabilization money we received from the state. Future purchases include new tables for room 2 and 3 and new chairs for the school.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page to see all the great things that are happening at the Early Learning Center.

Happy New Year!

Jennifer Calonico, Director and Kim Oca, Assistant Director