

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

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.

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..oldstonechurchuceasthaven.org

The Herald

June 2022

Upcoming Dates

OUR Sanctuary is open for In-Person Worship service or can be viewed on Facebook Live 10 am Sundays

June 4, 2022—ZZ Boogie and George John Live on Stage

June 11, 2022—49th Annual Flea Market

June 15, 2022—Early Learning Center Graduation

June 18, 2022—Pancakes with the Pastor / Father's Day Breakfast



Don't forget to pick up your latest copy of "The Upper Room"



From the desk of Rev. Mark Pilletere...

Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us! Plans for vacation and reservations have been made. Is church part of your plans?

Fellowship is an integral part of church life. We all need it, whether we like to admit it or not, especially as Christians!

Acts 2:42 – They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

There is something powerful about having fellowship and camaraderie with one another that helps us get through the bumps and bruises of life.

One reason being with others is so helpful, especially as we go through difficult times is that we begin to realize in the course of conversation that there are others who have been through many of the things we are going through, and have held on to Christ victoriously through it all! We gain strength when we realize we don't have to walk through things alone.

Some might argue that they have tried church, and found it to be failing, and even though they didn't expect "perfection", they at least were hoping for something close! If all we are doing as the body of Christ is looking to avoid conflict, then we're probably not really enjoying the Christian life.

Bill Hybels said this: The mark of community—true biblical unity—is not the absence of conflict but the presence of a reconciling spirit.

I want to encourage you today to make regular Church attendance a goal this summer, and then work to achieve that goal! I believe that as you dedicate yourself to something that God clearly approves of, and yes, even commands, then you will begin to find greater joy and fulfillment in life.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV) 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

We live in a challenging day, yet there is nothing quite so powerful as the strength we receive from the Lord as we gather together with His body in fellowship and worship at the Old Stone Church.

Blessings in Christ!

Pr. Mark

June 2022

"If you see no need for giving thanks, the fault lies in yourself."

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
			WISP Rehearsal (FH) 6pm-9pm	Childbirth (P) 6 Mahjongg (P) 12 Troop 401 (BSR) 7 Choir (S) 7		ZZ Boogie 7pm Thrift Shop Open 9-3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sub Pastor Communion Prep Class 11:15	"Women of the Bible" (P) 12p	FBG Meeting ZOOM 6pm Council Meeting ZOOM 7pm	WISP Rehearsal (FH) 6pm-9pm	Childbirth (P) 6 Mahjongg (P) 12 Troop 401 (BSR) 7 Choir (S) 7		Flea Market 9-3 Thrift Shop Open 9-3
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Children's Day Communion Sunday	ELC Rehearsal (P) 9-11 "Women of the Bible" (P) 12p	ELC Rehearsal (P) 9-11	ELC Graduation (P) WISP Rehearsal	Childbirth (P) 6 Mahjongg (P) 12 Troop 401 (BSR) 7 Choir (S) 7		Pancakes with Dad 8:30am Reserved Party FH Thrift Shop
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Confirmation Class (PS) 11:15	"Women of the Bible" (P) 12p		WISP Rehearsal (FH) 6pm-9pm	Mahjongg (P) 12 Troop 401 (BSR) 7 Choir (S) 7		Reserved Party FH Thrift Shop Open 9-3
26	27	28	29	30		
Confirmation Class (PS) 11:15	"Women of the Bible" (P) 12p		WISP Rehearsal (FH) 6pm-9pm	Childbirth (P) 6 Mahjongg (P) 12 Troop 401 (BSR) 7 Choir (S) 7		

June Birthdays

- 06/01 Linda Hargraves
- 06/01 Gillian Manley
- 06/01 Gabriella Alberino
- 06/09 Robert Hasse
- 06/10 Audrey Pochodowicz
- 06/14 Caryljean Andrews
- 06/17 Sharron Shepard
- 06/18 Marge Brelsford
- 06/18 Louise Ward
- 06/19 Robert Stevens, Jr.
- 06/20 Butch Johnson
- 06/23 Rebekah Vineyard
- 06/23 Tom Collopy
- 06/24 Brie Badiali
- 06/24 Ruby Iovanna
- 06/28 Earl Korngiebel
- 06/28 Ethan Howard



Happy Anniversary

- 06/02/1984—John & Bonnie Cacace
- 06/06/2021—Kirsten & Kaitlin Kilburn
- 06/07/2013—Kurt & Kate Burkard
- 06/07/2015—William & Brittany Torello
- 06/11/1988—Andrew & Carol Apuzzo
- 06/14/1980—John & Nancy Wobensmith
- 06/16/2001—Edward & Carrie Bast
- 06/17/1967—Tom & Linda Collopy
- 06/19/2008—Sean & Jillian Landers
- 06/25/2011—Peter & Jessica Gercz
- 06/29/2013—Eric & Kristen Moreira
- 06/30/1962—Fred & Linda Hargraves
- 06/30/1996—Todd & Virginia McLay

Have you been wanting to become more involved at OSC? **Do you** want to learn about the inner workings of OSC?
Are you creative and want to give back to OSC? We are looking for motivated, inspiring and creative people to join OSC boards and committees. Contact Stephanie Kilburn for more info.



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.



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.

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.

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 June: Tom and Linda Collopy

What's Cookin' ??

Ginger Krinkles Submitted by Linda Hargraves for publication in The Herald

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F

1 cup Sugar 1 Egg 2/3 cup Canola or Vegetable Oil
1/4 cup Molasses 2 cups Flour 2 tsp Baking Soda
1 tsp Salt 1 tsp Cinnamon 1/2 tsp Ground Cloves
1 heaping tsp Ground Ginger



Mix together Sugar, Egg, Oil and Molasses. Mix all dry ingredients together then add everything together.

Make into little balls, roll in sugar, place on baking sheet. Bake at 350 for 9 to 10 minutes. Don't overcook.

I usually double the recipe when I make them, and use a wee bit more oil.



Hearty Breakfast Submitted by Pastor Mark (one of his favorite)

1/2 cup Oatmeal 1 cup Water

Mix all ingredients together with love and respect. Microwave on high for 2 minutes. Remove from microwave and enjoy with gratitude or a topping that you like such as maple syrup or honey.

Lime Poppy Seed Scones Submitted by Heidi Manley for publication in The Herald

2 cups Flour 1/4 cup Sugar 1/2 tsp salt
1 Tbsp Baking Powder 1/2 cup unsalted Butter 2 Tbsp Lime Zest
2 Tbsp Poppy Seeds 2 Tbsp Lime Juice 1 Egg
1 Cup Sour Cream For Glaze: Mix 1/2 C 10X Sugar with 1 Tbsp Lime Juice.



Instructions: Mix flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder together in a bowl. Cut in the butter with a pastry blender until resembles the size of peas. Stir in lime zest and poppy seeds. Combine the lime juice, egg and sour cream in a bowl. Make a well in the flour mixture and add the lime egg mixture. Stir with a fork just until combined. Gently knead to bring dough together. Turn out onto a lightly floured surface and pat to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into shapes as desired. Place on an ungreased baking sheet, spacing them 1/8 inch apart. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until golden brown. Glaze when cooled. Top with a bit of lime zest for an extra flare.

Broccoli Salad Submitted by Beverlee Roberts for publishing in the Old Stone Church Cookbook



8 cups Broccoli Florets 1/2 cup Red Onion (chopped)
6 to 8 strips Bacon (cooked and crumbled) 1/2 cup Raisins

Cook bacon, cool and crumble. In a large bowl, combine broccoli, onion, bacon and raisins.

Dressing: 1 cup Mayonnaise 1/4 cup Sugar 2 Tbsp Vinegar
In small bowl, whisk dressing ingredients together.

Add dressing to broccoli mix and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour. Serve and enjoy.
Yield 10-12 servings

Sunday Morning Fellowship has returned to

Old Stone Church

Please join us after Sunday morning services for a time of fellowship in Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in hosting a Sunday morning fellowship, please sign up at church or contact the office via email at oldstonchurch97@gmail.com or call 203-467-2907



Flower Committee News

Would you like to remember, honor, celebrate or dedicate flowers on Sunday morning in church? You can always make a donation to the Steeple Fund or bring flowers for the pulpit.

Let any one of the Flower committee folks know that you are interested., or call the office at 203-467-2907.



COMMUNICATION:



Do you have a new address, e-mail or phone number? Have you gotten married, had a baby or need support?

Please let us know so we can reach out and update our data. Let a Deacon, the Pastor or the office know of any changes.

Global Outreach

The East Haven Food pantry at Christ and the Epiphany church is always in need of food donations. Please consider donating to your neighbors in need. Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Goods, Crackers, Tuna, shelf stable Milk and Juices, etc. Thank you!!

Christian Education

Herald Article Board of Christian Education June 2022

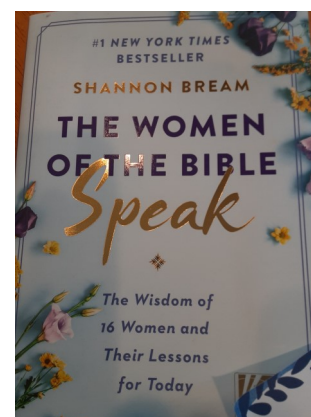
Our Sunday school is a buzz with music and quotes.

Let not your heart be troubled!

We are concluding our study of the Lord's prayer and are focusing on a fun way to recite the 23rd Psalm. We hope to present it at Children's Sunday on June 12th. We will be celebrating First Communion and Baptism that day as well as marking the completion of a busy Sunday school year.

We are very excited to announce that **Vacation Bible School**, VBS, will be held August 15-19, 2022.

The Fruits of the Spirit 5-day program will run 9 am- 1 pm and include well-loved favorite Bible stories, crafts, games, music and a field trip. The cost is \$20.00 per student. Application forms can be obtained in church office.

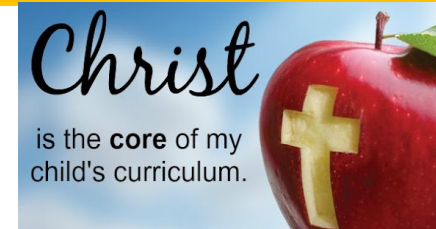


A book and Bible discussion series of **The Women of the Bible Speak** by Shannon Bream will be starting on June 6, 2022, at 12 noon. Please contact Louise Ward if you are interested in this delightful read. Books are available. Hoping to combine it with a brown bag lunch.

Confirmation students continue their studies will be visiting a synagogue in June 26, 2022.

Blessings to all,

Louise Ward



Old Stone Church



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

Fellowship Hall and Parlor Rental Space

Do you have a special day coming up in your life?

Why not check out the space available for rent at the Old Stone Church? We have 2 wonderful spaces just right for you and your needs.

Fellowship Hall's spacious accommodations seat up to 200 people.

The Parlor's more intimate décor seats 75 comfortably.

Check with the office for more information, dates and pricing. 203-467-2907



IN LOCAL NEWS

Music and Memories

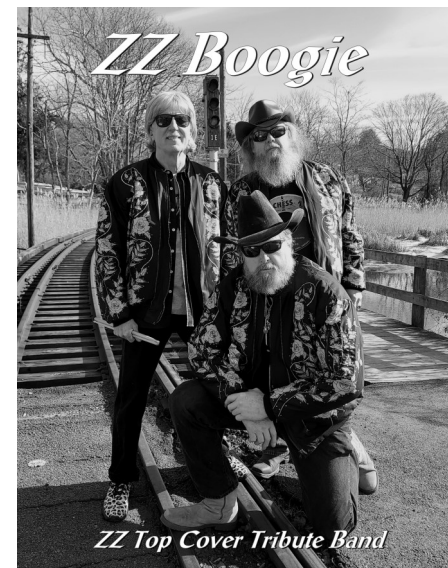
ZZ Boogie and George John live on stage

Saturday June 4, 2022—
7pm in Fellowship Hall
251 Main Street
East Haven, CT 06512

General Admission \$15. pp

Proceeds go to Old Stone Church Steeple Fund

ZZ Boogie is Connecticut's ZZ Top cover/tribute band, performing all your favorite ZZ Top songs with the look and sound of the iconic band.



ZZ Top Cover Tribute Band

Farmer's Market Comes Back to the Green on June 12

Back on the East Haven Green, the East Haven Farmers Market will run Sunday mornings 8:30 am to noon with a big opening day assist from the Shoreline Garden Club on June 12.

The market moved from the Town Hall parking lot to the green in 2020 and has seen an increase in vendors and visitors in its new home.

Shoreline Garden Club members will be on site, June 12, to assist guests with an herb-potting project to celebrate opening day. The club will host additional free planting activities throughout the season. Free market bags will also be available on opening day.

The market runs rain or shine; check www.favebook.com/easthavenct for updates on activities or severe weather cancellations. New vendors are welcome to participate. For more information, and the full story, see the May 19 publishing of East Haven Courier.

Vietnam Memorial Wall



"The Wall That Heals" The 3/4 scale replica will be on display June 2—June 5, 2022 at Veterans Memorial Park at 42 Seaside Ave. Norwalk, CT

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) has announced *The Wall That Heals* national tour schedule for 2022. *The Wall That Heals* exhibit includes a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center. The 27th season of *The Wall That Heals* will begin on March 24, 2022 in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi and visit 29 communities during the year. The traveling exhibit honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the 58,281 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam



Tickets on sale now! Father's Day Breakfast has never tasted so good.

\$ 5.00 gets you Pancakes, Sausage, Bacon, Fruit, Assorted Pastries, Juice, Coffee, Tea

Come celebrate Dad in this very special way. See OSC office for more info and tickets.

Vacation Bible School at Old Stone Church

August 15-19, 2022 9 am—1 pm Children ages 6-10 are invited to attend this weeklong fun filled adventure. \$20.00 pp

Register early to get your chance to learn about the Fruit of the Spirit.

Registrations are now available and are due by July 31, 2022 For more information call 203-467-2907 or see Louise Ward

Monday : "Self Control" Tuesday : "Patience" Wednesday : "Kindness" Thursday : "Peace"
Friday: "Love & Faithfulness"



Opening soloist, George John, will be performing a mixture of acoustic pop and rock classics.

For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/zzboogie

Tickets available in church office if paying by cash or check.

Steeple and Bell Fundraisers Continue

Old Stone Church is a local, state and nationally recognized treasure and is in need of our community support. We are currently working to raise funding to repair and paint the steeple and the decaying mortar between the brown stone. As well as repair the bell. Please consider donating. (all donations are tax deductible)

OLD STONE COFFEE BLEND is available in the church office. \$14.00 per bag, (pre-ground.) Enjoy a cup of this deliciously blended coffee from One World Roasters.

Writing With a Piece of History

Our very own Pastor Mark of Old Stone Church, has created a work of art using wood from the Steeple. To purchase pens, please see Pastor Mark or call the office at 203-467-2907.

This unique pen sells for \$25.00 each



(100% of the profits from the sale of these pens go to the Steeple Fund)

Change a life this summer
SILVER LAKE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

SUMMER CAMP

2022
Now hiring

COUNSELORS ▪ LIFEGUARDS ▪ ROPES FACILITATORS
PROGRAM STAFF ▪ KITCHEN STAFF
MAINTENANCE STAFF

PAID AND VOLUNTEER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
16 AND OLDER
WWW.SILVERLAKECT.ORG/EMPLOYMENT
JENNKCC@SILVERLAKECT.ORG

F.Y.I. Corner

F.Y.I.

Alka Seltzer has many uses in the home.

Clean the toilet? Drop in two tablets, wait twenty minutes, brush and flush. The citric acid and effervescent action clean vitreous China.

Polish jewelry? Drop two tablets into a glass of water and immerse jewelry for two minutes.

Unclog a drain? Clear the sink by dropping two tablets down the drain followed by a cup of White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes, then run the hot water.

Do you have a tip to share? To contribute to future "FYI Corner" articles, please drop a note to the office or email to: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

What Seeds Are You Planting?

It's that time of year again. Time to sow your seeds, water, feed and watch them grow.

Whether you are container gardening or planting in multiple rows, when it is time to harvest your crop, it always tastes just a bit better knowing that you had a part in brining it to the table.

ENCOURAGING WORDS

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember...

Noah was a drunk,
Abraham was too old,
Isaac was a day-dreamer,
Jacob was a liar,
Leah was ugly,
Joseph was abused,
Moses had a stuttering problem,
Gideon was afraid,
Samson had long hair and was a womanizer,
Rahab was a prostitute,
Jeremiah and Timothy were too young,
David had an affair and was a murderer,
Elijah was suicidal,
Isaiah preached naked,
Jonah ran from God,
Naomi was a widow,
Job went bankrupt,
Peter denied Christ,
The disciples fell asleep while praying,
Martha worried about everything,
Mary Magdalene was, well you know,
The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once,
Zaccheus was too small,
Paul was too religious,
Timothy had an ulcer...
AND Lazarus was dead!

Now!

No more excuses!

In the circle of God's love, God can use you to your full potential.

Besides, you aren't the message, you are the messenger.

Early Learning Center News

June 2022



The Early Learning Center families enjoyed our May Pole celebration. The children had fun wrapping the colorful ribbons around the pole in our parking lot alongside their parents. Family members received a paper basket with homemade flowers to remember this special day.

June is a busy month for the ELC. The teachers are busy with planning for the end of the school year and getting ready for our Summer Enrichment Programs. Our creative staff has planned some fun activities and learning experiences for June. This month the children will learn about bees, opposites, turtles, Helen Keller, birds, and they will make a special card for Father's Day.

We are very excited to announce that we are having our traditional end of the year programs after two years! Our programs are scheduled for June 15th. The students have been practicing their songs, poems and dances to show family members and friends. After each program the students and their families will enjoy a party in their classrooms.

The 2022 Summer Enrichment Program will start June 20th. Each week is a different theme. There will be science experiments, nature walks, Sink and Float, and the children will learn how to make props, learn speaking parts, and act out scenes for a play that will be videotaped for their families. Our teachers always have many new creative ideas and outside play will be a must especially in the sandbox looking for letters, making sand castles, playing with the water tables and "grilling" food in the play patio, all while they explore the world around them. The students will enjoy walking field trips to the Hagaman Memorial Library for all the fun activities Ms. Sascha, the children's librarian has planned.

The ELC has been voted one of the top 5 finalists in the 2022 Best On The Shoreline Contest for Pre-School and Private School. The top 5 voting will take place May 15-June 5 at www.zip06.com/beston2022. You can vote everyday so please vote for us!

Best Wishes for a Fun and Safe Summer!!!

Jennifer Calonico, Director and Kim Oca, Assistant Director

Isn't That Funny?



Johnny's mother looked out the window and noticed him playing church with the cat. He had the cat sitting quietly and he was preaching to it.

She smiled and went about her work. A while later, she heard loud meowing and hissing. She ran back to the open window to see what was happening. It was Johnny baptizing the cat in a tub of water. She called out, "Johnny, stop that! The cat is afraid of water!"

Johnny looked up at her and said, "He should have thought about that before he joined by church."

Mahjong in the Parlor

Would you like to learn a new game? Mahjong or mah-jongg, is a tile based game that was developed in the 19th century in China and has spread throughout the world since the early 20th century. It is commonly played with four players.

The group meets in the Parlor on Thursday afternoons at 12:30pm. They have 2 game set ups and have a lot of fun. Bring your own games and join in on the fun.

For more information, please call the church office at 203-467-2907





Old Stone Village June Herald

May Recap

We had an incredible May as we celebrated our staff of Old Stone Village.



We originally planned to honor our teachers with a best under the big top theme, but with the outpouring of love and tremendous support from our village families we decided to honor our staff with a different theme each day. We began with our “Best Under the Big Top” theme where teachers were able to treat themselves with a “create your own popcorn” bar. Each teacher also received their favorite circus candy to add to their popcorn. On Tuesday, we recognized our All-Star Teacher line up with a sports theme where our teachers received fan mail from their students and Ms. Nicole was able to secure past sports photos of all our staff from their own mothers. All of these past photos decorated our hall so our children and families could see pictures of their teachers as children. Throughout this day teachers also received their favorite stadium snacks and beverages to snack on. Wednesday, we honored our staff with a superhero day where each staff member received a Superhero T-shirt and personalized drawing from their class on why their teacher was a superhero or what superpower their teacher has. On Thursday we celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a “Nacho Average Teacher” theme. Teachers received a special Mexican lunch and shared some fun celebratory Mexican dancing and pinatas with the students. On Friday, we concluded our week with a “How Sweet It Is to Be Taught By You” theme. All families sent in their child’s teachers favorite sweet treats. One of our village parents even set up an ice cream sundae bar for our staff to indulge in. Prior to this week, all teachers were asked to complete a favorite thing survey. This survey was sent out to all parents and many parents also surprised teachers throughout the week with fun surprises and gifts from their individual surveys. We had such a fun time celebrating our staff for all the hard work they do each day.

Our next week took us into the African Savanna, where we encountered animals such as the Elephant, Giraffe, Zebra, Hippo, Rhino and Lions. Our villagers spent their time this week comparing these animals’ habitats, foods they eat, and assumed different roles as honorary zookeepers in taking care of these animals. Some of our villagers’ favorite duties included washing muddy elephants, feeding tall giraffes, and keeping our animals healthy with a visit to our zoo vet. Our infants even joined in on some special sensory exploration as they helped Hippos through their chocolate pudding “mud”, fed a giraffe some tasty leaves, and created their own handprint “Zoo” to take home at the end of the week. Throughout this week our villagers were also able to observe the lifecycle of ladybugs. Did you know that ladybugs start off as tiny black beetles with no wings or spots? Our villagers loved watching these tiny insects triple in size and begin to completely change like our caterpillars.



During the month of May, we also began voting for Old Stone Village for the Best of the Shoreline Community Choice Awards. Last year we placed third for Childcare Centers and are hoping to obtain the first-place title this year. Please help us achieve this honor by voting at www.zip06.com/beston2022#. Voting is open now through June 15th. You can vote once per day through June 15th!



The Month of June takes us from the Zoo to the Aquarium. This first week we dive down deep into the tropical waters to explore various tropical fish, sharks, dolphins, Jellyfish, and stingrays. Our Villagers will explore through outdoor sensory play in our new sensory table we’ve acquired for our outdoor playground area. Each day we will add a new creature to our table, so the children really begin to see the interactions and explore the different qualities of each of these creatures. The second week of June brings us to visit our cold-water friends such as various whales, penguins, lobsters, and Walrus’. We will integrate ice and icebergs into our sensory exploration as our little scientists get to investigate the differences between the warm water friends from the previous week and the cold-water creatures of the second week as they compare and contrast the various aspects that make these creatures so different. The third week of June will take us out of the water and onto the beach for our annual “Beach Days” unit. Through this unit we will explore the sun, water and waves, sand and sandcastles, crabs and a variety of different shells. With all hope this week we will be able to spend the majority of our time outdoors enjoying some waterplay to go along with this week’s topics. The next week we will celebrate the First Official Day of Summer with our “Signs of Summer” unit. This unit will explore things such as summer treats, outdoor games and a mock “cook-out” with our Villagers in our play grill. We wrap up June with a Camping unit. This unit is a huge hit with our Villagers as they get to enjoy some fantastic pretend play with tents, mock campfires, s’mores and flashlight experiments!

One of our key science topics this month is Living Things and Their Interactions with the Environment and Each Other. Our classrooms are currently working on the standard S.24.3 to observe Living Things and to Observe how a variety of living things obtain food as a source of energy for surviving. One of our favorite learning activities in May is when our caterpillars arrive, and we begin watching our caterpillars complete their lifecycle with their metamorphosis into a butterfly. Our villagers observed as our tiny caterpillars ate and grew, formed into their chrysalis’, and eventually emerged as beautiful Monarch butterflies. On Friday, May 20th we had the privilege of releasing these butterflies into our Village Garden. During the second week of May we began our unit on the Zoo, another favorite topic in our Village. Our villagers continued to expand on their observation of living things when our very own Ms. Jessie brought in her pet Turtle and Gecko while we explored the World of Reptiles in our Zoo unit. We also explored snakes, frogs, and alligators during this week where our villagers participated in many sensory experiences with models of these animals. We indulged in numerous sensory exploration activities, sang some of our favorite reptile inspired songs, and even got to examine a real alligator head close with our magnifying glasses.

Old Stone Village is so blessed to have the amazing families we have had as part of our Village over the last (almost) 3 years! We will begin our “goodbyes” to our graduating Toddlers in the month of June as some of our graduates begin summer programs within their new school environments. It is so bittersweet to send off these children as this class was our first Infant class when we opened in 2019 and many of them have been part of our OSV families since they were tiny babies. Watching them grow over the years and blossom into beautiful young scholars has been such a journey. August we will have our second annual graduation ceremony and send 17 more children off to various preschools come the new school year.

