

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



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

E-mail: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

Website: www..oldstonechurchucceasthaven.org



The Herald



November 2022

Upcoming Dates

OUR Sanctuary and Parlor, are open for In-Person Worship service or can be viewed on Facebook Live 10 am Sundays

Join us for Fellowship after service in the hall

Upcoming events

80th Annual Christmas Fair

Nov. 4 (5-8pm) and
Nov. 5 (9-2pm)

Veteran's Remembrance

Nov. 13, 2022 10 am

Confirmation of Joseph Taylor

and Arianna Osario
Nov. 20, 2022 10 am

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

Nov. 22, 2022 7pm

Advent Workshop

Nov 27, 2022
11 am with Pastor Mark



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

From the desk of Rev. Mark Pilletere...

Dear family and friends of OSC,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we once again move toward the Holiday Season, which includes Thanksgiving, Christmas, and then New Year's Day, I want to take just a moment to encourage you to pause and consider just how good God has been to you over this past year.

While there have been many challenges for us, as well as the entire world over the past many months, God is still good! Once again, we are reminded of the fragility of life and that we should do our best to value our loved ones. I believe the Holiday Season doesn't need to be filled with stress and anxiety when we realize the purpose for celebrating these wonderful times of the year... and new year!

November brings us the simple reminder, that thankfulness is truly the kind of spirit we are to have, and this thankfulness will be more meaningful when we are both thankful to those around us, as well as our God above us. Here's a beautiful verse of scripture on thankfulness out of the Message version of the Bible: 1 Chronicles 29:13 (MSG) 13 *And here we are, O God, our God, giving thanks to you, praising your splendid Name.*

I encourage you to really focus on this spirit of thanksgiving in advance of all these Holidays, and I really believe God will give you a tremendous appreciation for the Christ of Christmas as well. More than the "tinsel and the toys", and more than "bustle and the noise", is the realization that Jesus came to earth over 2000 years ago for you and I to know the blessed gift of Salvation!

Then, when these special days are over, take a week to reflect on the events of this past year, and determine your goals for the new year ahead. Here is a wonderful scripture in anticipation of the New Year: Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV) 13 *Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.*

Press on! This walk with the Lord speaks of tenacity and resolve, yet the same God who has helped you make it through this year in victory will also be there to help you in the year ahead!

So, get out there and enjoy the Holiday Season!

Blessings in Christ,
Pr. Mark

November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Service 10 am		Girl Scouts (DIR) 7pm		Cub & Boy Scouts (BSR) 6pm		Thrift Shop Open 10-3
	1	2	3	4	5	
	Fair Set-up Council Meeting (ZOOM) 7pm	Fair Set-up	Fair Set-up	Christmas Fair 5—8 pm	Christmas Fair 9 am—2 pm	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Reserved Party (FH) 2 pm	Organ Tuning (S) 12 pm	Election Day		Wedding Reception Set-up and Rehearsal 6 pm Childbirth Class (P) 6pm	Wedding and Reception (FH) 5 Veterans Day	Reserved Party (FH) 5 pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Veterans Remembrance Reserved Party (P) 1pm				Childbirth Class (P) 6pm		Childbirth Class (P) 9am Reserved Party (P) 1pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Confirmation Deacons Meeting		Ecumenical Service 7pm				Reserved Party (FH) 5 pm
27	28	29	30	COMMUNICATION: Do you have a new address, e-mail or phone number? Have you gotten married, had a baby or need support? Do you have an event coming up and want to rent the Hall or Parlor? Let a Deacon, the Pastor or the office know of any inquiries and changes.		
Advent Workshop (FH) 11 am						

November Birthdays

- 11/01 Branden LaPia
- 11/01 Kim Shute
- 11/04 Patrick Manley
- 11/06 Michael Buccieri
- 11/06 Blake Pierson
- 11/06 Cooper Jones
- 11/06 Kevin Ward
- 11/07 Shari Moon
- 11/10 Jean Pilletere
- 11/12 Hope Ryan
- 11/20 Carole Landers
- 11/24 Bob Luther
- 11/24 McKinzley Cesario
- 11/30 Willow Gersz



Happy Anniversary

11/02/2003 Alec & Antoinette Taylor
 11/05/1966 David & Helen Wendt

CONGRATULATIONS !!

Julia Torello has been elected as President of the JMMS National Junior Honor Society.
Sean Provencal to be inducted in to the EH Academy National Junior Honor Society
Ashley Divilio made 2nd honors at EH Academy for this marking period.

SMILE ;)

When you're gloomy, when you're sad, when you're grouchy, when you're mad, life will not seem as bad—if you **SMILE!**
 If you've had a trying day, and meet folks along the way, but you have no words to say—give a **SMILE.**
 Maybe they've had troubles too—Maybe even more than you—but a sun beam may break through—if you **SMILE.**
 If you have no joy at all, and you faith seems very small, and you feel like you could bawl—try to **SMILE.**
 Yes, I know it costs a lot—sometimes all that you have got—but you've won the fight you fought—if you **SMILE.**

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.



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.



Is there news that you would like to see in the upcoming Herald? Maybe something that you would like to know? Is there something interesting happening around town or in church that you would like to see featured? Please send me your article for publishing. To: oldstonechurch97@gmail.com

Keep Your Mind Open



In the Peanuts cartoons there would be moments where the imagination of the characters runs a bit wild. However, if it weren't for their vivid imaginations then they would not be able to gain a fresh new perspective. You'll find that sometimes you will have to walk away from everything and give yourself a mental break so you can look at things with a different lens. Get creative and allow your mind to explore areas that you wouldn't ordinarily view. You'll find that keeping your mind open will make you more relatable and help widen your array of knowledge.

SAVE THE DATE...

Dec. 3, 2022 WISP Cabaret and Dinner fundraiser



Dec. 18, 2022 Children's Christmas Pageant 10am

Dec. 24, 2022 Christmas Eve Service Candle Light Service of Lessons and Carols 4pm



Dec. 25, 2022 Christmas Day Service 10 am



Dec. 31, 2022 Last Night Celebration with Dinner and Dancing Fundraiser



Jan. 1, 2023 New Year Service 10am

Join us as we journey to Lancaster Pa.

Set adrift as a baby, Moses is an unlikely hero –God calls him to lead his people out of Egypt and into the promised land. Experience one of the Bible's most epic stories as MOSES comes to life with massive sets, special effects and live animals in this original stage production from Sight and Sound Theaters.

We will be departing the Old Stone Church on Tuesday Aug.8, 2023 and return the evening of Aug. 9,2023. Price includes round trip bus ride, overnight at Double

Tree Resort by Hilton. One evening meal at Hersey Farm Restaurant. Before departure we will visit Kitchen Kettle Village, a place for sharing laughter, carving out family time, and relishing a Lancaster, PA hospitality experience all rolled into one quaint, walkable village of local cooks, quilters, and shopkeepers, looking forward to your visit.

Register now, beginning Oct 1, 2022. Final payment due on or before May 1, 2023

For more information and registration forms, please contact Heidi at the church office 203-467-2907



Italian-American Parade 2022

Shown here are, (from left to right)

(pic. 1) Tom & Linda Collopy "King and Queen"

(pic.2) Linda Hargraves, Sean Cavanagh, Tom & Linda Collopy, Louise Ward "Faithful Walkers"

(pic. 3) Barbara Cole "Side Kick and Navigator"

Thank you to all that decorated the trailer, participated, walked, rode, drove.

A big Thank you to Pastor Mark for the use of the trailer and to OSC Village for banners and decorating

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.

Watch for the Poinsettia / Christmas flower order form for the month of December.



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

Scouting in the Community

Boy Scout Troop and Cub Pack 401 sponsored by Old Stone Church will be participating in the annual "Scouting for Food". Neighbors in central East Haven will receive a plastic bag on Saturday, November 5. If you are able to donate, please add non-perishable food items to the bag for pick up by a scout on Saturday, November 12.

The food will be delivered to the East Haven Food Pantry for families in our community.



Choir News

Come sing with us!! There is a choir robe ready for you.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas coming up, we are rehearsing some wonderful songs.

Such a beautiful way to sing God's praises in church.

Are you that person?? Are you ready??

Contact Jonathan or anyone of the OSC choir members for more information.

See you in church!

Global Outreach will provide a grocery gift card to the Salvation Army of greater New Haven for Thanksgiving meals.

The East Haven Food Pantry has a wish list to fill the Thanksgiving bags for our neighbors: **canned vegetables like corn, green beans, peas, cranberry sauce, gravy, cake mixes and muffin mixes.** They appreciate all the food that is donated by Old Stone Church.



Board of Deacons

November is another busy month at Old Stone Church. We get started with our Annual Christmas Fair on Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5. We encourage all to come and join the fun, and of course we can't do this without volunteers so please jump in and help where you can.

We will honor our veterans the following weekend during the November 13 worship service. There will be a Confirmation ceremony for our two confirmands, Ariana Ozario and Joseph Taylor, during the November 20 worship service.

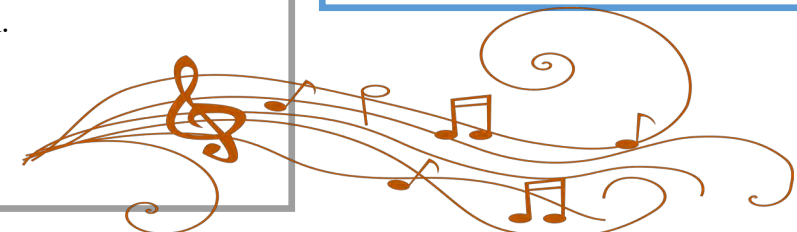
Old Stone Church will be the host this year for the annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service on Tuesday, November 22, at 7:00pm. There will be a reception following the service in Fellowship Hall where we will serve cookies and warm cider.

The First Sunday of Advent is November 27. The Board of Christian Education, along with Pastor Mark, will conduct an Advent workshop after the service.

Looking ahead: December 18 will be the Christmas Pageant, the Christmas Eve Candlelight service with Lessons and Carols will be at 4:00pm followed by the Wassail Bowl and cookies in Fellowship Hall, and the Christmas Day service is on Sunday at the normal time, 10:00am.

Please join us for worship during this special holiday season. If you are unable to attend in person, we encourage you to join us online with live broadcasts on Facebook.

Tom Collopy, Chairperson





Christmas at Old Stone Church

*Friday, Nov. 4, 2022 5-8 pm and
Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022 9am to 2pm*

251 Main St., East Haven CT Phone: 203-467-2907

Dinner served on Friday evening—dine in or take out

*Handcrafted Gifts for Christmas, Novelties, Seasonal Items,
Baked Goods, Country Kitchen, Salads, Candies, Jewelry,
White Elephant, Thrift Shop Specials
Gift Baskets Raffle, Christmas Décor,*

*Vendors with Unique Wares, Children's Area
with Santa and a Toy Store*

Snack Bar And More!

Admission Free!



WELCOME TO

OLD STONE CHURCH

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service
Tuesday, November 22, 2022 - 7:00 pm

Join us in celebrating the fall harvest and joining
together in worship with friends!

What's Cookin'?



Stuffed Mushrooms Submitted by Patricia Johnson for publication in the OSC Cookbook

1 Small can Deviled Ham 1 Tbsp. Butter 1/4 to 1/2 Cup Seasoned Bread Crumbs
Worcestershire Sauce to taste 1 Tbsp. Chopped Onion
1—12 oz Pkg. Whole Mushrooms

Saute' onion in butter, add deviled ham, bread crumbs, Worcestershire Sauce. Stuff mushrooms, place on cookie sheet, cook under broiler until toasted. *****

African Peanut Soup Submitted by Peggy Thomas for publication in the OSC Cookbook

1 Medium Onion, chopped 1/8 cup Natural Peanut Butter
3 Tbsp Butter Freshly Ground Black Pepper
Pinch of Salt 1/8 cup Cooked Orzo
1/8—1/2 tsp. Cayenne 1/8 cup very small pieces Cooked Chicken
1 very large Sweet Potato, (chopped into small pieces) Chicken Broth



When I make soup, the measurements are not very exact, so play with what you think tastes good. I wrote down approximate amounts. This is not a science. Serves about six people. Saute' onion in butter until clear; use pinch of salt here. Add cayenne and cook a few minutes. Add sweet potato and broth (to cover). Simmer until the sweet potatoes are very soft. Add peanut butter and black pepper. Place all into blender and blend until smooth. Return to pan. Adjust seasoning. Add orzo and chicken. Add more broth or skim milk to thin out or use cream for a creamed soup.



Scalloped Corn Submitted by Marion Smith for publication in the OSC Cookbook

2—16oz can Creamed Corn (use only cream style) 1 1/2 cups of milk 1 tsp. Sugar
8 Tbsp. Flour (1/2 cup) 2 Eggs 3 Tbsp. Melted Butter Salt & Pepper to taste

Mix all ingredients together. Bake for 1 hour at 400 degrees.*****

Turkey Lasagna Submitted by Debbie DeMuis for publication in the OSC Cookbook

1 lb. Lasagna Noodles, uncooked 1 cup Grated Parmesan Cheese
1 lb. Ground Turkey 1 Egg Salt
8 Cups Marinara Sauce Garlic Powder Nutmeg
1 lb. Fat Free Ricotta Cheese 2 cups Part Skim Mozzarella Cheese (shredded)



Cook lasagna noodles according to package directions. Saute' ground turkey. Season turkey with salt & garlic powder to taste. To the ricotta, add one egg, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. nutmeg and 1 tsp. garlic powder. Mix well. Spread some of the tomato sauce in a 13" x 9" baking pan. Layer 4 noodles over sauce, overlapping edges. Layer ground turkey, ricotta cheese, mozzarella cheese, parmesan cheese, and tomato sauce. Add another layer of noodles, turkey, cheese and tomato sauce. Repeat until all noodles are used, Spread remaining tomato sauce, mozzarella, and parmesan on top. Cover with foil. Bake in a 350 degree oven for one hour.*****

Dinner Rolls from Mom Kavanagh submitted by Barbara Kavanagh for publication in the OSC Cookbook



1 cup Shortening 2 Eggs 1 cup Sugar 1 cup Cold Water
1 1/2 cup Boiling water 2 Yeast cakes 1/2 tsp. Salt 6 cups Flour, not sifted

Pour boiling water over shortening, sugar and salt. Blend—cool and add eggs. Let yeast stand in cold water for 5 minutes then add to cooled mixture. Add flour, blend well, cover and refrigerate. Place mixture into muffins cups. Cook 20 minutes in 350 degree oven. *****

Old Stone Church Early Learning Center



Our "Back to School Night for Parent" was quite successful. Parents visited the classrooms and were delighted to see the many projects the teachers and students had on display. Each classroom did a special parent project that is on display in the hallway. Parents learned about our school's curriculum and the teacher's goals for the school year. There was a wish list that had stars on it, with items for the classroom written on them (disinfectant wipes, tissues, masking tape, etc.). Almost every star was taken, Thank you parents and our church friends!

October was fire prevention month so The East Haven Fire Department paid a visit to the Early Learning Center. The students learned about some of the equipment the firefighters use, they got to see a firefighter dress in full gear, and they got to see a firetruck up close! Back in the classroom the teacher taught the students about fire safety. They learned how to stop, drop, and roll and how to dial 911 in case of an emergency. This was followed up with a fire drill.

We had Picture Day the end of October. Class pictures were taken as well as individual portraits for parents to purchase. Smiles all around!!



The Early Learning Center participated in "Scarecrows On The Green". We had two scarecrows, a little boy and a little girl to represent our school.

Room 2 was painted by our teachers Mrs. Griffin and Mrs. Licata with help from Mrs. Calonico and Mrs. Griffin's nephew. The room looks fantastic, they did a great job!

Our annual Halloween Parade was again a success thanks to our Main Street merchants who generously support our parade. The students with their teachers and parents visit the local merchants in their favorite costumes. Everyone enjoyed the walk and especially all the "goodies". Upon returning to school each class enjoyed a Halloween party!

November events include: Election Day and Veteran's Day, school is opened. November 3 & 4 school is closed for per-fair days. Our Thanksgiving feast and sing-a-long is Nov. 23rd. School is closed November 24 & 25 for Thanksgiving vacation.

Fall provides a multitude of projects and lessons for the students; Election Day activities will include voting for their favorite snack, the students will learn about Veteran's Day and watch the Veteran's march down Main St. as they wave their class flag, they will go for a nature walk and collect leaves to make a leaf banner, learn the Life Cycle of a Pumpkin, and just fun Halloween and Thanksgiving projects.

The Thanksgiving holiday will be the focus of many lessons and projects with an emphasis on family, friends, cooperation and good will. But the most exciting activity of the month is our traditional dinner..... Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes, corn bread, corn, and stuffing, YUM!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Jennifer Calonico, Director and Kim Oca, Assistant Director



Old Stone Village News

Fall is an amazing time here at Old Stone Village with October being the heart of the season. Our monthly standards have changed and throughout this month we built upon skills we began in September with a new focus on identification of shapes, energy, force and motion, and regulating emotions and behaviors. We kicked off the month celebrating Community Helpers, amazing people in our community those who help keep us safe and healthy. The second week of the month we celebrated Fire Prevention Week at OSV with a plethora of fire activities and safety lessons. The third week of the month we spent focusing on Pumpkins and gourds through opposites and finished the month out with a dive into the symbols of Halloween.

The first week of October our Villagers turning into little dentists as they practiced brushing, flossing, and counting their teeth. We flossed playdoh out of our toy teeth, painted with toothbrushes and used mirrors to check out our very own teeth. Day two brought us into a Veterinary clinic where we tended to our various stuffed animal friends and made them feel better. We matched our animal friends to their respective homes, cleaned them up in the bathtub, gave them their medicine and checked their heartbeats with their stethoscopes. The next day we had our Nurse Consultant come visit us and show us the various tools that Doctors, and Nurses use every day to keep us healthy. We practiced filling play syringes with liquid, put Band-Aids on our teddy bears and created our own medical bags by putting colorful tools into our paper doctors' kits. The fourth day we learned about mechanics and how they help us by keeping our cars safe while we drive.



Our Villagers used various tools on our toy cars to "fix" them, washed cars in our carwash, we even made sure they were agile around the twists and turns of various shapes as we drove the different courses. We wrapped up our week by exploring Police Officers and everything they do for us by racing to save our friends, and even having our fingerprints taken. The Officer Ryan Michalowski from the East Haven with our Villagers. He showed us his radio, Our Villagers loved sitting in the driver's seat of tools he has at his disposal to help people in need, we were heroes too.



The second week, we celebrated Nation Fire Prevention Week at Old Stone Village. This is a week we look forward to every year, but this year was especially exciting because of the group of Villagers we have and their ongoing obsession with Firefighters and Fire Trucks. We spent time each day exploring different branches of a fire rescue team, we learned how to save people by air, by land, and by sea. We raced cars to fires and used fire extinguisher shaped water squirters to put out our pretend fires outside on different shaped buildings with our firefighter friends. Our infants built campfires and roasted marshmallows over it while making sure to keep our water and fire extinguishers close and raced a fire boat to save people in trouble on the water. We made art to represent our favorite parts of fire safety – footprint dalmatians, shape firetrucks, different color fire rescue planes, and squish painting fire. East Haven Fire Department came to visit with their firetrucks and show us his gear up close and sit in the passenger seat of a firetruck.



Week three brought us to explore pumpkins and gourds through opposites. Each year we bring an OSV size pumpkin patch right to our Villagers where we allow each villager the ability to explore and select their own perfect pumpkin. Our villagers wash their pumpkins to make sure they're show ready before they decorate them with paints and stickers. We opened the pumpkins and let our friends explore the seeds and innards of pumpkins of different sizes. We made art representing the insides of pumpkins with strings of yarn, and the outsides represented by smooth tissue paper. We had an entire day dedicated to pumpkin games where we bowled, had pumpkin sack races, tossed baby pumpkins into the jack-o-lanterns mouths, pumpkin roll races, and watched jack-

o-lantern faces explode with pumpkin volcanos. We love pumpkin week mainly because we make them into Jack-o-lanterns and leads us into Halloween week! The last week of the month we spend celebrating every aspect of Halloween with our Villagers. We explored bats and cats through sensory experiences as we dug through webs to catch all the spiders and then crawled around our classrooms as spooky black cats. We explored spooky things that walk such as mummies, skeletons, and monsters

Our Villagers used skeleton hands to dig through colored spaghetti to find monster eyes, fingerpainted monsters and put giant google eyes on them. We sorted bones, candy, ghosts, and Haunted Houses by size and shape in all classrooms with activities differentiated by age and abilities. Each of our classrooms created art projects reflecting the various theme of the day in anticipation of the Halloween holiday.

We ended the last day of October with one of our favorite events we have all year here at Old Stone Village. Our annual Halloween parade down Main Street with our Villagers, their families, and the Early Learning Center. The Early Learning Center began this tradition years ago and as soon as we opened Old Stone Village Childcare, we joined in on the fun immediately. Our Villagers and their families dress in costumes as we walk to the neighboring businesses on Main Street in East Haven and "trick or treat". The neighboring businesses look forward to this event just as much as all our families do, this year was no different. We cannot thank all the businesses that participate, enough for making this event so memorable for all of the children of the Early Learning Center and Old Stone Village Childcare.



We cannot begin to express how truly thankful we are after all the support we received at our First Annual Trunk or Treat held in the Old Stone Church parking lot on October 15th. We had 23 Disney themed cars participate and sold 93 tickets to children of Old Stone Village, The Early Learning Center and even friends non-related to Old Stone Church.



Everyone in attendance had an amazing time trick or treating with our spectacularly decorated Disney cars, dancing to music with friends, snacking at our Concession booth and picking out which buckets from our Raffle to put their tickets in. We had prizes donated for our raffle by Libero Jewelers, Brandfon Honda & Brandfon Hyundai, Aniello's Italian Restaurant, LoMonaco's Restaurant, The Sandpiper, Rocco's Off Wooster, Jennifer's Ice Cream, Twin Pines Diner, Align Nutrition and a select few other local businesses. We ended up raising \$1246 in one night and could not be happier with how amazing this night was!

Our annual Butter Braid fundraiser began the third week of October and will continue through November 9th for Delivery the week of Thanksgiving. These products are requested by so many people every year because they truly are a holiday lifesaver! Every year we have done this fundraiser we have raised the most money out of any of our Fundraisers and we expect no different this year! If you are interested in supporting OSV by ordering Butter Braids or Cake Rolls please see Heidi Manley in the church office or contact Kristen Sartor directly.

November will bring us into our month of being Thankful. Our Villagers will spend time each week exploring the main things that we are thankful for. The first week will be exploring all the beautiful things that make us who we are, we are thankful to be exactly who we are! The second week we will be celebrating our many friendships through our "Thankful for our Friends" week. We will spend the week working together on various activities and talking about the many things we love about having special friends. The third week will be exploring how thankful we are for our families by incorporating our own families into our daily lessons. We will build family trees, use our dollhouse families to pick figures that represent their own families, and then compare the differences between each other's families. The week of Thanksgiving we will spend reviewing the different symbols of Thanksgiving and of course finishing our Holiday week with our annual Thanksgiving Feast with our Villagers and their families. This has been a favorite tradition of ours since we opened in 2019 and due to covid we were unable to invite our families in to enjoy it with us the last two years. This year we are over the moon to be able to share this experience with all our villagers in such a special way!

Until next month, **Nicole and Kristen**