

*(house blessing continued here...)*

## Prayer

God of all glory, whose habitation is the whole of creation, we rejoice that you make yourself known particularly in the midst of those who gather as your people in Christ's name. May this building always provide holy habitation to the family who calls it home. May laughter and joy fill these rooms throughout all its days of sheltering purpose, and may love guide each person who rests beneath this roof; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Blessing

Peace be to this house, and all who live here.  
Peace be to those who enter, and to those who go out.  
Peace be to those who love this house,  
and who love the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

# House Blessing for The Stone Family October 21, 2001



sponsored by  
Grand Avenue Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

# House Blessing

## Prayer

Almighty God, to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this family home. We praise you for the abundance you have given to those who live here; and we pray that all who come through the doors of this place may:

- find generous hospitality,
- experience the joy of family,
- and know the security of living in your grace.

Be with David, Susan and Mariah and all who call this building “home” in the future – that each may count the blessing of this building around them, and the love contained herein, as gifts from you and a promise for your securing presence to be with them into the future. Amen.

## Declaration of Purpose

We have gathered as a family of God to celebrate with thanksgiving the building of this home and to dedicate it to the glory of God. We gather as a church family to help the Stone family lift up the holiness of human habitation. We are each aware of our need for a roof over our heads and walls around us to keep us safe from the elements and provide a place where the sacred love of family can be nurtured. And so we celebrate the lives of those who have made this house a framework around which a home will continue to be created. For the gifted talents of the Stone family and their friends who have wielded hammers and other tools; for plumbers and electricians and carpenters and architects — we give thanks. For all the holy work that has resulted in concrete, wood, plastic, metal, dirt, rock and sod coming together into this place of living for David, Susan and Mariah — we praise God’s generosity. For even the newly begun wear and tear that help to make every house a home — we praise God for the holy and mystical way our precious memories are bound up into each scratch and nick and dent of home ownership.

Holding on to the hope of God’s creative purpose for this new home, then, even as we celebrate how God has already been present in the shaping of this space, let us consecrate this new house as a place where children of God will be loved, the Christian faith lived out, and a family will find sanctuary for nurturing their call to serve God in the world around them.

## Litany of Blessing

*Wondrous God, the skies and the highest heavens cannot contain you, much less any building made by human hands. Yet you dwell on this earth among us and make yourself intimately known in the places we dwell. So it is, we ask you to bless this house and use it for your glory through the lives of those who make it their home.*

**Fill this building with your Holy Spirit. May its walls, its furnishings, its presence in this community, declare your praise.**

*As we ask your blessing upon this house, we ask that its resources might bless the lives of Mariah, Susan and David. May they be refreshed in the shelter of this place that their lives are able to show forth your loving-kindness as a light upon a stand that leads others, also, to give you praise.*

**Accept the joy that comes from a place of their own, the peace to be found behind their own front door, the confidence bestowed within one’s living room, the security of one’s own bedroom — and in these gifts given may the family of this house always affirm your holy and eternal presence.**

*May the needs to be found in this house become the framework for prayers of dependance upon you; and may you, O God, attend to every prayer uttered aloud or in secret, touching each heart with the certainty that no prayer goes unanswered.*

**As people are greeted into this house, may they also know what it means to be welcomed into your outstretched arms, embraced with a love that draws them ever nearer to you.**

*May this house provide a place in which people find new commitment to one another, a sense of peace and belonging that replaces estrangement and hostility, a comforting hope that replaces grief and loss, a sacred sense of worth that erases the poverty of hopelessness.*

**In everything that happens within this house— from the refreshed hopefulness of awakening in the morning, to the holiness of shared meals and other friendly gatherings, to the solemnity of bedtime’s trusting prayers — may all who find themselves between the foundation and shingles of this place come to know a renewed and empowering awareness of your sheltering presence in this world. Amen.**