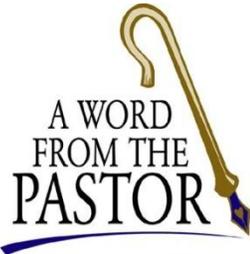


Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

June 2013

A Pastor Muses on Baseball and the Church



Now that baseball season has arrived, I realized there may be some similarities between baseball and life in the church. As a young little league player, I recall how exciting it was playing baseball before a home crowd. The parents of players and many others came out to show their support - filling the stands and cheering the home team on when a good hit or play was made. Their presence in the stands cheering gave those of us out on the field encouragement and energy, even when our team was lagging in runs.

That was kind of like what happens in the life of the church on Christmas and Easter when the “stadium” we call the church sanctuary is filled with the fans and supporters of Jesus Christ. That presence gives strength to the hymns that are sung – energy to the “players” the worship leaders, choirs, and others who want to put their best foot forward for the Lord.

When the stadium is full, even the fans seem to be energized - saying to one another what a great experience this is for them too. There’s just something about that gathering of the faithful that gives strength and energy.

As a child I recall how when for whatever reason the bleachers were not so full, it seemed to take more energy for me and the other players on the ballfield to do what we were there to do. We’d still give it our best shot whether on the field or up to bat, but when we needed to rally the team, to come from behind, it just seemed as though the absence of supporters in the stands made things a bigger challenge.

When I sat on the bench for most of the season, I wondered what the point of my being there was, as others covered the bases, and scored the runs. Little did I realize at the time, my role, even on the bench, was an important one. I was there to relieve a player who was too tired to continue, or replace an injured starting player. Sometimes a player on the bench was used just to throw a change-up in the strategy of the opposing team by giving them someone to pitch to whom they did not expect.

I also came to realize that baseball is a team sport with a number of different players filling a number of different positions on the field – with a number of supporting folk who were also important, be they the water boy, the score keeper, the bat boy, the grounds keepers that mow the field, and mark the baselines etc. Even those who worked the concession were needed to fund the team.

So it is in the life of God’s team, the Church. Whether one is cheering (singing), in the bleacher (pews); sitting in the dugout (quietly present in a pew) waiting to be called up, working on some committee behind the scenes, holding some highly visible position as a player on the “field,” all are needed all the time.

I have noticed in the sports world there are several components that make the difference between a good team and a great team. The first is to have a great franchise owner who invests in the team. And we have a great franchise owner in Jesus Christ who gave his all for us. The second is a team whose players work in sync with one another. And we seem to have that here. The third ingredient to making a great team is a core of dedicated players who give their all. And we have a number of those. And lastly a great team is one whose fans are loyal supporters of their team, showing up – rain or shine, making their presences felt and stepping in when needed. When it’s not Christmas or Holy Week or Easter (the playoffs, if you will), are “U” the missing letter on team CH RCH?

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS



We will commence our Summer Worship Services on July 7, 2013 at 10:00 AM. The services will be held at this time through September 1, 2013. Weather permitting, there will be a service and picnic at Windward Beach on July 14, 2013 at 10:00 AM (no service at Brick Presbyterian Church, Drum Point Road). There will also be an informal service in the Family Life Center on August 11, 2013 at 10:00 AM with refreshments following the service. Child care will be available for all the services, except for July 14, 2013 and August 11, 2013.

Jesus Welcomes Children in Worship & We Do Too!

We want to encourage you to come to the Worship Services and bring your children with you during the summer. In Mark 10:14 Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God".(RSV) We are a loving congregation and love our children. They are our future. We recognize that children are not always able to sit quietly for a long period of time. That's understandable, but let's teach them that God loves them and we do too. Let us all be more like Jesus and welcome everyone - young and old - to worship with us.



Let the little children
come to me....

LUKE 10:16

CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR SUMMER SERVICES



A sign-up sheet is available for those who wish to provide child care during the Worship Services during the summer months. We expect that if you wish to avail yourself of this service, that you will wish to take your turn also. The sign-up sheet will be placed by the Child Care room. You don't need to have young children to enjoy working with them. Young people - Jr. and Sr. High School students will be welcomed also. The only requirement is that you enjoy children. Thank you for helping!

Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, June 9, 2013
Between Services
Hope to see you there!



MORTGAGE BURNING

**Sunday, June 16, 2013
Between Services
Followed by Coffee Hour**



Brick Presbyterian Women's News



Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet in the Church Parlor on June 3rd at 9:30. Our Brick Presbyterian Women's Group (that is all our circles) will meet on Wednesday, June 19th at noon in the Church's Family Life Center. Beverage, sandwiches and desert will be provided. Those attending are asked to bring a salad to share. For More Information, contact Carol Farley, Moderator.

Coming to House of Hope in June!

Saturday, June 8, 2013
7:00pm - 10:00pm
Catalyst People
featuring
Terry Clark



For more info about Terry, go to <http://catalystpeople.com/>

Sr High News



Laser Tag ~ June (date to be announced).
End of year BBQ ~ July (date to be announced).

Thank you to all of the Sr High Members for all of the service work you've done for the church and community.

Christian Education

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer your time with the youth programs in any capacity, please feel free to contact me at Donnaschlatter@comcast.net or 732-785-0665.

Triennium

Roberta and Daniel Kleban will be attending the Presbyterian Youth Triennium this July 15-21 at Purdue University. We pray for a safe and meaningful spiritual journey for them and all who are participating and leading the Triennium. We look forward to hearing about their trip when they return.



Last Day of Sunday School

Sunday School will be ending on Sunday, June 16, 2013 which is a Family Sunday. We will be holding Youth and Teacher Recognition during the 9:00 am service in the Sanctuary. Join us in showing our appreciation to the volunteer Sunday School staff and youth leaders. As well as commending the children who have participated in various church groups and those who have achieved faithful attendance throughout the year.



Vacation Bible School



Although Sunday School is not in session during the summer months we are hoping that you will see this year's VBS program as a way to keep your family connected to the church. VBS will be held every Wednesday beginning with July 10, 2013 through August 28, 2013 from 6:00-7:30 pm for grades pre-k through 8th. At the close of VBS each week we will be offering Family Fellowship from 7:30-8:30. This will be a time for the children and parents to socialize with our church family or participate in games and other activities. Volunteers are needed to make the program a success. Registration forms are available in the main office and the church school office. Registration is required. There is no fee and you do not have to attend every Wednesday.

First Day of Sunday School

The 2013/2014 Sunday School program will begin on Sunday, September 15, 2013 at 9:00 am. This will be a Family Sunday. Please bring the children to the Sanctuary with you. After the Children's Moment they will proceed to their classrooms and meet their teachers.

DEACONS



"The 2013 Blood Drive was held on Wednesday May 15th in our Family Life Center. Working with the folks from the Central Jersey Blood Bank and the BPC Health Ministry Team, we collected 29 pints of blood plus 2 additional donations of much needed red blood cells. A big thanks to everyone who donated, Judy and the Health Ministry Team and, to Deacon Blood Drive Co-Chairs Kristin Ferris and George Schick for a job well done. What an awesome day to share in and with the Savior's love!"

Please remember to mark your calendars and join us at the Blue Claws fundraiser on Friday, July 26th. Please help us sell our 250 tickets. We are also looking for 20 volunteers to work the concession stands at the Blue Claws game on Friday, July 12th.



What's Happening at Tent City?



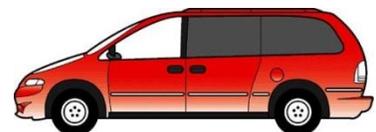
While much ado has been made in the press in recent months about plans to relocate the Tent City dwellers, time passes and their numbers have swelled to approximately one hundred people. In early May, a census was completed to determine the demographics and needs of those living in that community. The dwellers await word from the Township of Lakewood as to the next step in the relocation process.

Our congregation has continued its commitment to provide eggs and water as needed for those living at Tent City. On May 10th, the residents were treated to a sumptuous meal prepared and delivered by Leroy Derrick of Chalet Caterers. Four members of our congregation served the dinner to a hungry, welcoming and grateful crowd.

As the months unfold, we continue to accept donations of clothing and items needed for everyday living. They may be deposited in the collection bin in the narthex or dropped off in the Deacon Pantry. If you have any questions about donations, please contact Jean Reilly at (732)295-1605 or jreilly@comcast.net.

HELP WANTED: DRIVERS

Volunteers are needed to provide rides to worship services for our faithful members who are no longer able to drive. These members want to attend worship services, but for some reason (illness, injury, or other inability), are not able to do so. It is our goal to provide transportation to church services for all members. Volunteer drivers should be available one or two Sundays per month, for either the 9:00 or 11:00 service (your preference – members usually can adapt to your schedule.) If you are able to help meet this need, please send an email to Joan Erickson at jmerick112@yahoo.com, or call 732-833-2977, for further information. Thank you.



SHUT-IN TRANSPORTATION NEEDED



SIMKO'S GRILL

Simko's Restaurant Fundraiser Benefiting

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BELMAR

On June 18th, 19th, and 20th **Brick Presbyterian Church** is sponsoring a restaurant fundraiser at BOTH LOCATIONS of Simko's Restaurants at:

447 Brick Blvd., Brick 08723 Ph: 732-920-5050 **and**
403 Higgins Ave., Brielle 08730 Ph: 732-528-9989.

Simko's Restaurants have generously agreed to donate 20% of your check to Brick Presbyterian's effort to help First Presbyterian of Belmar recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy. Our sister church in Belmar, which is headed by our former Associate Pastor Bill Morris, had its Fellowship Hall destroyed by over five feet of salt water dumped in it by Sandy. First Presbyterian of Belmar had **no** flood insurance and is dealing with over \$400,000 in repairs, including \$100,000 in repairs for its Fellowship Hall and an additional \$70-\$80,000 in damages to the elevator that allowed handicap access to the Hall. Realizing we are all part of a larger Church community, we here at Brick Presbyterian are encouraging everyone in our church and in the Monmouth Presbytery system to support this effort by showing up at either of these restaurants on any of the days listed above. We encourage everyone who is able, to get a flyer off our website or at the church and bring it to Simko's. Together we can show First Presbyterian of Belmar that we support their efforts in this time of great need and look forward to rejoicing with them when they are all back in their Fellowship Hall!

Thank you! For supporting our Deacons Fund fundraiser at the Windward Tavern May 13th and 14th. Your support of these fundraisers helped our Deacons reach out financially to members who were affected by Hurricane Sandy.

Stream Energy : Thank you to everyone who signed up for our Stream Energy fundraiser! If you switch your energy provider through us you will not only save money but Stream Energy will donate **\$4.00 per month** to our building expansion fund. Just bring us your current electric bill and we'll do the rest, or you can log on to our account @**brickpresbyterian.streampowerup.biz**. Look for our table at the church or contact us through the church's website, or contact either Jeff Law (732-779-4499 or **Lawjeffrey@gmail.com**) or Patrice Law (732-779-7242) for more information. Come join the growing list of people who are saving money every month with Stream and **Please** don't switch your energy provider until you talk to us!



FUNDRAISING NEWS

Memorial Bricks: **Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, Don't Delay!** We've already got 10 more orders. If you would like to add your Memorial Brick to our walkway please pickup an order form at the church or download one off the church website and return it to the church office with a check for \$75.00 for a 4x8 or \$150.00 for a 8x8 and we'll add your brick to our beautiful walkway in the Memorial Garden. We will be putting our order in soon.



Blue Claws: Please look for our table for our annual Blue Claws fundraiser. This year's game will be on **Friday July 26th** and this will be a **firework's night!** Tickets will again be \$10, and early purchases will put you in a drawing for All-Star Game tickets being held this year at First Energy Park. As usual we need to sell 250 tickets to make this a very successful fundraiser so please help us out by selling some tickets for us to your friends and co-workers. It will be a great night at First Energy Park!



Blue Claws Concession Stand: On **Friday July 12th** we will once again be looking for **20 volunteers** to work at First Energy Park for a very generous donation. As of May 12th we had 14 volunteers signed up to work. Please see Tim Towlen to sign up. It's a fun way to help our Deacons help us!

Protect Yourself from Medical Mistakes By RealAge

Don't let other people's mistakes affect your health and well-being. Use these four simple strategies to prevent medical errors and get the quality care you deserve.



Take Action Against Error

Unfortunately, medical errors have become all too common and can occur at any stage in the healthcare process, from diagnosis to treatment. So it's critical for patients to realize that virtually all encounters with the healthcare system carry a risk for medical slipups. The good news: You can take steps to protect yourself while getting the best care possible. How? By being a proactive patient and taking some basic precautions.

Precaution 1

Know and communicate your medical history. Make sure to share the following information with each healthcare professional you see: Current medical conditions; current medications, vitamins, herbs, and supplements you're taking; Known allergies; details of past surgeries, hospitalizations, and treatments; medical records from previous providers (you can have them transferred between providers at no cost). Never assume that your healthcare provider knows everything he or she should about you. The odds are very low that your doctor has your entire medical history at hand.

Protect Yourself from Medical Mistakes (continued)

Precaution 2

Speak up and ask questions. One of the best things you can do to protect yourself from medical errors is to make every attempt to understand all of the information your healthcare provider conveys to you. In order to give informed consent of a procedure or treatment, you need to know the consequences and feel comfortable that it's the right step for you. It's your healthcare provider's responsibility to inform you of any risks associated with tests or treatments. But let's face it, medical terms can be confusing. If you don't understand something your doctor tells you, ask for an explanation in everyday language. Some people find it also helps to get the details in writing.



Precaution 3

Be diligent and detail oriented about your meds. When you are prescribed medication, make sure you can read your doctor's handwriting before you leave the office. If you can't read it, the pharmacist may not be able to, either. Ask for written information about the medication, including: instructions on how and when to take it; potential side effects and what to do if you experience them; contraindications (e.g. substances or other drugs your medication should not be combined with; what to do if you miss a dose). When you get your prescription filled at the pharmacy, ask the pharmacist to double-check and confirm that you're receiving the exact medication your doctor prescribed for you. Some medications have similar-sounding names but are used to treat very different conditions. Check the label to make sure it's the right medication (not someone else's) and that the dose is printed correctly – types, such as misplaced decimal points and zeros, put your health at risk. Being proactive may require that you monitor the conduct of caregivers, too. If you see something that looks not quite right, speak up. Remember, your health is at stake.

Precaution 4

Do your own research. Ask your healthcare provider about all of the different treatments available for your condition and why he or she chose the one prescribed.



When cleaning out your garage or home, think about donating items to Habitat for Humanity's ReStore thrift shop. Habitat for Humanity is one of our Stewardship Committee's mission projects. The store is always in need of clean, usable, and crack-free housewares, furniture, and appliances in good working order. Items include but are not limited to: flatware, pots & pans, baking dishes, china, linens, knick-knacks, small appliances (e.g., toasters, irons, can openers, etc.), lighting, collectables, etc. Please note: ReStore does not accept clothing.

There is a box in the church narthex available for you to leave items. Collection will be ongoing. If bringing items to the church is difficult for you or if you have larger items, please contact Robin Mower at rmower@gmail.com or 732-608-7956.

Knit for Kids

Knit for Kids, originated by Guideposts and managed now by World Vision is a program that unites thousands of volunteer knitters to fight poverty with their knitting needles! More than 500,000 sweaters have been sent over the years to everywhere from Afghanistan to Zanzibar, including areas in the United States. The women of our church have made and sent almost 500 sweaters in past years.



For more information and patterns click [here](#) or check out the samples in the narthex and get a pattern there. Start knitting - the kids need your sweaters!