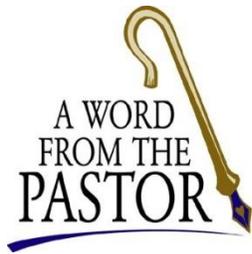


Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

May 2013

In the Face of Evil's Darkness – A Light Still Shines Pastor Doug's Reflections on Boston



The tragic acts of terror at the Boston Marathon on Patriots Day, remind us of the presence of evil in our world. The cruel maiming, injury and loss of human life that took place is simply horrific. It defies our ability to explain to ourselves or to our children what has happened. We ask "Why?" But, that question simply does not have a satisfying answer. The question however reflects our sense of shock, pain, and outrage at such evil and destruction.

Some may remember the late Fred Rogers, a Presbyterian minister, who had a television show, Mr. Roger's Neighborhood. He had a special gift for reassuring and helping families with young children deal with difficult and tragic events. On one occasion Fred Rogers wrote: *"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping." To this day, especially in times of "disaster," I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers – so many caring people in this world."*

With the near instant transmission of horrific events via cell phones, television, radio, Twitter and Facebook, Fred Roger's mother's words are as helpful for us as they are for our children and grandchildren.

"Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping," she said. She was right. There were those who rushed to the scene on Patriots Day, both those we call first responders (police, firemen, EMT, etc.), and ordinary people without title. This is always true. It was true on 9-11. It was true when Congresswoman Gabby Gifford was shot. It was true at Aurora, CO and in a school in Newtown, Conn.

"Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping," said Fred Rogers' mother. It is so easy to fixate on the evil, and fail to look for the good and redemptive. As God raised our Lord, Jesus Christ, over the powers of sin, death and human evil, so too, our God raises up people who are helpers. Look for the helpers, and you will see the hand of God reaching out, helping, comforting and showing the world a light that shines in the darkness – a light that the darkness cannot and will not ever overcome.

Our prayers go out to the people of Boston, and to all who experience such evil. Thank God for the helpers. Thank God for the Light that shines in the darkness still.

Pentecost



We will be celebrating Pentecost Sunday on **May 19th**. We are asking everyone to wear red which signifies the "fiery tongue" referred to in Acts 2:3. Please mark your calendars and wear red on **May 19th**.

Board of Deacons' 2013 Blood Drive

The Board of Deacons is pleased to announce the 2013 Blood Drive will be held on **Wednesday, May 15th from 4PM to 8PM** in our Family Life Center. Once again, we will be working with the team from the Central Jersey Blood Bank and our Health Ministry Team. Walk-Ins are always welcome but the Deacons will be making donation appointments on Sunday mornings May 5th and May 12th. For more information regarding the 2013 Blood Drive, please see Co-Chairs Kristin Ferris and George Schick. If you are able, please join the Deacons on May 15th and share the gift of LIFE.



WEEKLY FLOWERS



If you wish to donate a set of weekly flower arrangements in memory of someone or in celebration of a special occasion/event, please sign up on the [Flower Chart](#), located in the narthex. The cost for weekly arrangements is \$30.00.

Save The Date Saturday June 8th at 7:00 pm

Terry Clark is coming to House of Hope Cafe' .

Terry's music is designed to direct the listener to an intimate relationship with their Heavenly Father, and his life has been a process of developing that communication. His spiritual roots run deep in the gospel message and music. Terry plays piano and sings with his wife while pursuing genuine worship with our Lord. Together we will commune with our living Savior and sing His praises.



This evening is rated "Everyone" and not to be missed...

Fundraising News

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! For supporting our Deacons fund by dining at Jack and Mikes Brickhouse Bar and grill on April 17th and 18th! Our Deacon's are a busy group whose expanding ministry is always in need of funds. Your support of these fundraisers is a great way to help them and us in the community.



Windward Tavern: Our next Deacons fundraiser will be held at the Windward Tavern on Princeton Ave. in Brick on **Monday May 13th and Tuesday May 14th from 4:30 to 11:00pm.** (This one is not available for Lunch) The Windward Tavern (formerly Craig's) is hosting its first fundraiser for us and will donate 15% of your check to our Deacons fund. Please download the flyer off the website or pick one up at the church and bring it to the Windward Tavern May 13th or 14th. And have a great night out for a great cause!

Stream Energy : Our Stream Energy fundraiser is up and running and we only need a couple more people to switch for us to begin getting the donation! 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 the churches account @ **brickpresbyterian.streampowerup.biz**. Look for our table at the church or contact us through the 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!



Memorial Bricks: **Hurry, Hurry, Hurry, Don't Delay!** We only have limited space. If you would like to add your Memorial Brick to our walkway, please pick up 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. Please help us out, sign up early, mark it on your calendar to come out and help us raise money for our Deacons fund! Please see Tim Towlen for more information on either of these fundraisers. Thank you!

Youth Group



The Junior High Youth Group had a great time in April playing games and going to Laser Tag.

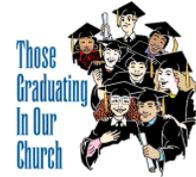
The month of May brings our annual Camp Johnsonburg Retreat the weekend of May 17th. We are really hoping for a good turnout for this event and all the kids should be encouraged to attend. If you should have concerns or questions please contact one of the Youth leaders, this is an experience every child should encounter in Junior High to strengthen their Faith and the journey with Christ.

Please check your emails for upcoming events as we wind down this season of Youth Group.

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you" Genesis 12:1

ATTENTION GRADUATES!

Are you or someone in your family graduating from high school, college, graduate school or vo tech this spring? If so, please let us so we can share the news with your church family. Please include the where they're graduating from, and future plans (if known).



know name,

An Update on New Eyes for the Needy



The Stewardship and Mission Committee has been collecting reusable old plastic or metal framed eyeglasses, nonprescription sunglasses, hearing aids, costume jewelry and old watches (even broken!) to help support New Eyes For The Needy, Inc. First organized in 1932, New Eyes for the Needy is a New Jersey based nonprofit volunteer organization that recycles the above items and uses them to provide the gift of sight to the poor all over the United States and throughout the world.

Thank you for supporting this worthy effort! We will continue to collect these items in 2013. Please drop them off in the collection box located in the Narthex. For more information, contact Patrice Law at 732-840-8412 or via e-mail at Xercisefan666497@aol.com.

HOLDING EACH OTHER UP IN PRAYER

When one studies the Bible, it becomes very clear that intentional prayer is an important part of the Christian way of life. Our Lord prayed for his needs, those of his disciples, for the church, and even his enemies. The apostles and New Testament church prayed for one another. They sought spiritual strength in testing, for faithfulness in temptation, for health and well-being, for protection in adversity, and for success in spreading the good news of the Gospel, among many other things.



Saint Paul instructs us to “...pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.” – *Ephesians 6:18 NIV.*

Your pastor and congregational shepherds invite you to join them in praying for those who are a part of our church family. You are invited to join us in praying for those people, along with those listed in our Sunday Prayer List. United in prayer may God strengthen our congregation to be a blessing that glorifies God by blessing others in Christ.

Audrey Ruck	Elsie Kneipp	Jean Reilly	Joan Mitchell
Patrice & Craig Law	Robert & Irene Auriemma	Carol & Frank Gundel	Jean & Richard Pachucki
Wilma Poppe	Barbara Tutzauer	Joni Henry	Ruth Cook
Cheryl & James McCue	Joseph & Joyce Gibson	Raymond & Paula Messemer	Kathy & Jack Hahn
Diane Czerwinski	John Kirkman	Susan Suter	Kathe & Phillip Jones

Did You Know...



... that May 26th is Presbyterian Heritage Sunday.

In the early 20th century, women in India were forbidden to seek medical care from a male doctor. The Presbyterian Church in the United States appointed a number of women doctors to care for women and children in India. Dr. Adelaide Woodard was one of the first female doctors to serve the North India Mission. Within five years, Dr. Woodard oversaw the construction of a Hospital that would provide formal training for nurses; another need in the region of the world.

This is only one of many women who brought the gift of life and prayer to people through the Presbyterian Church.

For Your Information

On Palm Sunday, our congregation participated in the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. This offering provided us the opportunity to join with millions of other Christians to share God's love with those in need. The gifts we provided help restore hope to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry and assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed. This is done through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger Programs and also the Self-Development of People Program.



This year you, the members and friends of this Church, donated \$1288 to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering! In 2012, our donation was \$1081.85. We were able to achieve an increase of \$206.15! YOU were able to make this happen through your generosity!

The Stewardship and Mission Committee thank you for bringing joy to others, to God and to us.

5 Things You Must Know About Heart Attacks

By Mehmet C. Oz, MD, and Michael F. Roizen, MD



For better or for worse, things rarely happen in real life the way they do in Hollywood (sorry, *Pretty Woman* isn't real). Heart attacks are no exception. Learning about them may save your life:

Heart-healthy habits for women

1. **You might not feel any chest pain.** The heart itself doesn't have pain receptors. But nerves coming from the heart may trigger nerves in, say, your chest or arm. Or not. Instead, you may notice unusual or extreme fatigue; atypical or prolonged disturbances in your sleep patterns; shortness of breath; indigestion; or pressure, tightness, aching, or burning in your upper back, neck, shoulders, arms, or even in your jaw or throat.
2. **Cholesterol doesn't tell you much.** Just one cholesterol number -- total cholesterol -- doesn't tell you everything. Better to know how much is artery-clogging lousy LDL (should be less than 100) and how much healthy HDL you have (should be higher than 50).
3. **Cholesterol isn't the only number to watch.** High blood pressure is a huge heart attack risk factor and is even more powerful than LDL. Your blood pressure should be 115/76 or lower.
4. **Women are as vulnerable as men.** The risk of dying from heart disease isn't just a guy thing.
5. **What's on your mind really matters.** Anxiety is hard on your heart. So hard, in fact, that highly anxious people with heart disease are TWICE as likely to suffer a heart attack or die compared with their more mellow-minded peers.