

# Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

October 2014

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## Pastoral Reflections

A friend of mine was telling me of having had conversation with another friend. In the course of their conversation my friend was talking about a book entitled, The Non-judgmental Christian by John Kuypers. Upon my friend's mention of that title, the other person replied, "The non-judgmental Christian, now there is an oxymoron for you."

I've done some reflecting upon that person's remark regarding the book title and what that person associated with Christians. My first reaction was to say that's just not true. But, then, I realized, there is an uncomfortable truth in that person's remark. I remembered a time when I felt judged, in ways that were both subtle and not so subtle by well-meaning Christians. I was told that because I studied the faith and questioned the Bible, my faith was faulty. Never mind I was seeking a deeper and more profound understanding of the Bible, its origins, history and social context. My efforts were to understand how to make sense of what sometimes seems like conflicting biblical teachings and stories, so that the whole Bible could be not just the printed Word, but the Living Word of God that comes from the printed pages. None of that mattered to those who were out to save my soul from the perceived error of a faith that questioned the Bible. I cared deeply about those who were concerned for my soul, even as they told me they would pray that God would bring me to see things as they saw and understood things.

Yet, I have to confess they left me feeling looked down upon. They had no desire to engage in my form of spiritual and intellectual inquiry, which was their prerogative. However, to infer that they were more faithful to the Word of God, than I was a sad relational experience, as they cut themselves off from me.

I wondered how often good and faithful people might estrange others without realizing it or intending it by words or actions that are perceived as condescending, judgmental or self-righteous? It is one thing to share what we believe. It is something else to tell someone else that what he/she believes is wrong, or that we disagree based upon what we are convinced is correct. Effective faith sharing is first sensitive to one with whom one wants to share their faith. Effective faith sharing is not about building arguments of disagreement, but bridges of understanding, respect and care. I see this modeled by Jesus as he talked to the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well in John 4 and as he went to the home of Zacchaeus in Luke 19. While the Pharisees spouted religious law, and judgmental attitudes, Jesus modeled acceptance of persons (not necessarily their life-style), so divine love could be received and lives changed. Perhaps Jesus' style is what my friend's friend needed to experience? And, isn't that love and grace what we want too?

## Influenza & Vaccination Program



On Sunday, October 5, 2014 the Ocean County Health Department will be providing a clinic for our congregation in our Family Life Center from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM. This is for all, so please let your friends & neighbors know that they can get their “shots” here! Get prepared for the upcoming flu season and take advantage of this opportunity. *There are no fees for individuals with non-HMO Medicare (must have part B) or Medicaid. All others are \$20.00. Please be sure to bring your Medicare or Medicaid card. Most insurances will reimburse.* The Health Ministry Team looks forward to seeing you there!

**WE HAVE A WONDERFULLY GHOULISH IDEA BREWING-  
SO WHY NOT BRING A FRIEND AND JOIN THE FUN AT A**



# HALL WEEN PARTY

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2014  
FROM 6:30 PM-9:30 PM**

**IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER @ BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**\$5.00 PER GHOULISH GUEST (5YRS & UNDER FREE!)  
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN THE NARTHEX**

**BE READY TO ENJOY FOOD, MUSIC, GAMES, PRIZES, &  
COSTUME CONTESTS FOR KIDS, TEENS, & EVEN THE ADULTS!**

**HALLOWEEN IS A FUN HOLIDAY FOR ALL AGES!**

## Fundraising News

1. **Tuscany's Restaurant:** On **October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>** Tuscany's Restaurant on Rt. 88 in Brick will host a fundraiser in support of our Deacon's fund. Please pick up a flyer in the Narthex and bring it to Tuscany's and enjoy a great lunch or dinner and support our Deacons as well.



2. **Bon Ton Community Days: November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>.** Just in time for the Christmas season, Bon Ton coupon books will be back. Each coupon book will be full of values available to our supporters. Look for our table outside the FLC in the upcoming months to purchase your coupon book.



3. **Fall Craft Show:** On **November 22<sup>nd</sup>** we will host our second Vendor/Craft show. Come and see our Family Life Center packed with vendors and guests as we head into the Christmas season. Keep an eye out for further details. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Melanie @ [ChampNet411@yahoo.com](mailto:ChampNet411@yahoo.com)

4. **Food For Thought Cards:** Once again we will be selling Food For Thought Greeting cards to support our food pantry. Please come to our table and check out our new holiday cards including Christmas and Hanukkah. All proceeds of this fundraiser will go to supporting our Deacons food pantry



5. **Stream Energy:** As always, see Patrice outside the FLC to sign up for Stream Energy through Brick Presbyterian Church. Whether you sign up for electric or gas or both, Stream will make a generous monthly donation to our church as well as giving you additional savings on your energy bill! Just bring your energy bills to Patrice to see if we can help you help us!



6. **Thank you to everyone who bought plants at our second Mum sale! And thank you to Bob and Tim Towlen for arranging and delivering the beautiful plants. This fundraiser was in support of our Deacons Fund.**

## Christian Education

Our Sunday School, Jr. & Sr. High Youth Groups, Cherub Choir and Jr. Praise Team are all underway for the 2014/2015 school year. If you would like more information on any of these programs or would like to volunteer, please contact Donna Schlatter at [Donnaschlatter@comcast.net](mailto:Donnaschlatter@comcast.net).



## **Sunday School Teachers**

Recognized and Commissioned on September 21, 2014

**Child Care:** Joan Horan & Miranda Auriemma

**Pre-K/K:** Kim Baranowski & Ryan Fortier

**1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> :** Donna Solly & Susan Pacitti

**3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> :** Tammi Spinelli, Penny Chandler & Michael Kraynick

**6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> :** George Schick & Mike Slater

**Confirmation:** Vic Erickson

**Junior High Leaders:** Kathy Kraynick, Tom & Debbie Fortier

**Senior High Leaders:** Ashia Huelsenbeck & Vic Erickson

**Cherub Choir Leaders:** Kathy Kraynick & Lauren Towlen

**Jr. Praise Team Leaders:** Mike Slater & Ashia Huelsenbeck

**Sunday School Office Helper:** Marissa Wagner



## **Jr. High Youth Group**

The Jr. High Youth Group season has officially started with their annual Pizza Party. We would like to thank everyone who came out; we had a really good time.

The Jr. High is combining with the Sr. High on September 28th for a Bon Fire with s'mores, music and games. Please mark your calendar for this event; you don't want to miss it.

October 12th the Jr. High will be meeting in the Family Life Center from 6:00 - 7:30pm.

October 26th we will be combining with the Sr. High for a Bake Sale to raise funds for the Christmas gifts for the underprivileged children in our community.

Upcoming dates to remember are:

November 9<sup>th</sup> - Fall Cleanup

November 16th - movie night in the Family Life Center.

*When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, "God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am" Exodus 3:4*

## Senior High Youth Group

Attention High Schoolers! We are working on some awesome activities for this upcoming year. If you haven't been out to join us yet, it's never too late! We meet Sunday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 upstairs in our Senior High "Living Room". On Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup>, we will help with a bake sale between services and then go Pumpkin picking later in the day. If you have any questions call or e-mail Ashia ([huelsena@kean.edu](mailto:huelsena@kean.edu) (732) 604-7244) or Vic ([gverick3@gmail.com](mailto:gverick3@gmail.com) (908) 839-9754).

## Confirmation Class



At BPC we hold Confirmation Class for students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade who want to become members of the church and learn what it means to affirm their faith in Jesus Christ. Students will participate in worship throughout the year, as well as help run the entire Youth Sunday service in April. The class culminates in May with a discussion with our church's Session and dinner followed by Confirmation before the congregation. Class will meet Sundays beginning September 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:15AM to 11:00. Students can attend either the 9:00 service before or the 11:00 after class. If you have any questions, e-mail Vic Erickson ([gverick3@gmail.com](mailto:gverick3@gmail.com) (908) 839-9754) or Donna Schlatter ([donnaschlatter@comcast.net](mailto:donnaschlatter@comcast.net)).

## Special Day to Honor Veterans



This past summer we had many people say how wonderful it was to have services in our Family Life Center with either a meal or a time of refreshments following our worship time. In response to those comments, the Session, following the suggestions of a couple of our committees, has decided to consolidate our worship services to one service on **Sunday, November 9, 2014**. This **consolidated worship service** will take place at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Family Life Center**, and will be followed by a fellowship meal put on by our Fellowship Committee.

During this consolidated worship service, there will be time set apart to recognize the veterans of the Armed Services and their service to the nation. We are inviting all veterans to be with us on this special day, that we may say thank you for your service on our behalf. If you are still eligible to wear your uniform, you may wear it. If you belong to a military veteran's group that has its own uniform and you wish to wear that uniform, you may do so.

If you have friends who are veterans and not a part of a faith community, feel free to invite them to this day of worship and fellowship.

Please note that **Sunday School** will still be held at **9:00 a.m.** on November 9. While our young people are in Sunday School, we will hold an **adult education event** in the **Sanctuary** from **9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m.**, discussing the subject of worship. This event will be a conversation focusing on: What is worship? What is the focus of Christian worship? What does the Bible say about worship? Why is worship important to the life of faith?

We hope you will plan to join us on this special Sunday, November 9 as we gather to learn from one another, worship the Lord, share fellowship and honor our veterans.

## EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

The Evangelism Committee is looking for more members. Listed below are what the Committee does during the year. We could use some new ideas. We meet the third Sunday of the month during the Coffee Hour. If you are interested in joining us, please contact the Chair, Lori Evans, at church or at 732-829-8698. We are a fun-loving committee! Thanks for taking an interest!



### Things that the Evangelism and Outreach Committee is doing:

- Easter and Christmas ads in the Brick Communicator as well as an ad for the Blessing of the Pets.
- Placing an ad for the Brick Relay for Life Ad Book in the Spring.
- Candy Canes with Church Information on a label to hand out before Christmas.
- Greet at both doors on Evangelism Sunday, the last Sunday of September, and on Easter.
- We have updated Visitor folders with a new brochure.
- House of Hope Events – not only inviting our congregation, but non-members as well.
- Placing our church banner up when we go to Windward Beach for our off site worship service in July. We place little phrases on the church sign outside.
- Health and wholeness Sundays (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month).
- Catch a Friend – Bring ‘em in Sundays.

### 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 of our members. Volunteer drivers should be available at least 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 or for further information, please send an email to Joan Erickson at [jmerick112@yahoo.com](mailto:jmerick112@yahoo.com) , or call 732-833-2977. Thank you.

### DEACONS

The Board of Deacons would like to thank everyone who helped the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance groups during their visit with us.

## HEALTH MINISTRY

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Please check out the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) web site or call 1- 800-4- CANCER for more detailed information.



Avoiding risk factors and increasing protective factors may help prevent cancer.

Avoiding cancer risk factors may help prevent certain cancers. Risk factors include smoking, being overweight, and not getting enough exercise. Increasing protective factors such as quitting smoking, eating a healthy diet, and exercising may also help prevent some cancers. Talk to your doctor or other health care professional about how you might lower your risk of cancer.

The following are risk factors for breast cancer: Being female and older age; Inherited gene changes; Dense breasts; Estrogen made in the body; Exposure to radiation; Obesity.

The following are *protective* factors for breast cancer: Less exposure to estrogen; Exercise; Estrogen-only hormone therapy after hysterectomy; Selective estrogen receptor modulators; Aromatase inhibitors and inactivators; Prophylactic mastectomy ( However, it is very important to have a cancer risk assessment and counseling about the different ways to prevent breast cancer before making this decision.); Prophylactic oophorectomy; Bisphosphonates.

It is not clear whether the following affect the risk of breast cancer: Oral contraceptives & Environment;

The following do not affect the risk of breast cancer:

Having an abortion.

Making diet changes such as eating less fat or more fruits and vegetables.

Taking vitamins, including fenretinide (a type of vitamin A).

Cigarette smoking, both active and passive (inhaling secondhand smoke).

Using underarm deodorant or antiperspirant.

Taking statins (cholesterol -lowering drugs).

Cancer prevention clinical trials are used to study ways to lower the risk of developing certain types of cancer. Some cancer prevention trials are conducted with healthy people who have not had cancer but who have an increased risk for cancer. Other prevention trials are conducted with people who have had cancer and are trying to prevent another cancer of the same type or to lower their chance of developing a new type of cancer. Other trials are done with healthy volunteers who are not known to have any risk factors for cancer.

The purpose of some cancer prevention clinical trials is to find out whether actions people take can prevent cancer. These may include exercising more or quitting smoking or taking certain medicines, vitamins, minerals, or food supplements.

New ways to prevent breast cancer are being studied in clinical trials.

Clinical trials are taking place in many parts of the country. Information about clinical trials can be found in the [Clinical Trials](#) section of the [NCI](#) Web site.