

# Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

September 2013

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*“For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven...”*  
Ecclesiastes 3:1.

Dear Friends:

This summer was such a fleeting season. Yet, with a day here and there at the beach, on the boardwalk, a camping trip here or there for some, a dedicated group of folk have made much happen at BPC, as you will read elsewhere in this newsletter.

Now we enter a new season. Our granddaughter, Faythe, is off to first grade. Many of you are seeing children and grandchildren off to schools. The shift from summer NASCAR, boating, golf and baseball to football, basketball and hockey is underway. Add to the mix the meetings of the PTA, Volunteer Fire Departments, First Aid Squads, Township council, neighborhood associations, doctor’s appointments, to name a few, and suddenly we are swept up in a whirlwind. Add an increase in e-mails, texts, Twitters, Instagrams, Facebook and other social media and we are traveling in hyper-drive.

We may enjoy all these activities and find them meaningful. We may love the feeling of the constant rush of adrenalin surging through our bodies. But too much racing and too much adrenalin rushing can lead to physical, mental and spiritual ills. Thus, the Scriptures caution us and speak to our busy lives and world:

*“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him, do not fret...” Ps 37:7*

*“Be still, and know that I am God...” Ps 46:10*

When the storms of life became overwhelming for Jesus’ disciples<sup>1</sup> and they were full of anxiety, Jesus commanded the wind and the waves to be quiet and still, and it was so. Life became calm. We all long for and need a balanced life. This was ever so clear when the Lord commanded that we keep the Sabbath Holy, as a day to connect, reconnect, worship and draw strength from the One who is our Maker, Redeemer and Sustainer.

Thus, I invite you to join us at Brick Presbyterian Church. Take an hour or so to step back from life’s whirlwind and waves of activity to sit with other believers and seekers of the Lord. Give yourself a moment, to pray and to listen for the Lord’s still small voice. It is a voice that is not always heard in life’s commotion of seismic like earthquakes, gale force winds, and scorching fire of our feverish lives.<sup>2</sup>

See you in Church, for God loves you, and so do we.

In Christian Care,  
Pastor Doug

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<sup>1</sup> Mark 4:39

<sup>2</sup> 1 Kings 19:11ff...

## WE'RE BACK TO OUR "REGULAR" WORSHIP TIMES IN SEPTEMBER!

Starting Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be returning to our "regular" worship times of 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM. See you at Worship!



### 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.

### **Back By Popular Demand!**

**House of Hope Café Presents:  
A Night of Gospel  
Doo Wop Music with  
Santos**

**Saturday, September 7  
7:00pm – 10:00pm**



### **HANDBELL CHOIR**

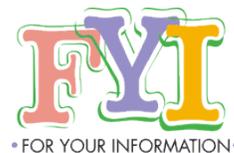


The *first* rehearsals of our Brick Handbell Choir's twelfth season will be:  
Saturday Morning, August 31, at 10:00AM and  
Tuesday, September 3 at 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

We will resume our normal Monday rehearsals on September 9.

### **For Your Information:**

*Just a reminder.....*



*Dorothy and her friends are back for a special coffee hour on Sunday, September 15th, between services. Come join us for some homemade baked goods and to welcome them back.*

## ACOLYTE TRAINING/PARTY EVENT



This year's annual acolyte training session will be held in the sanctuary on Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 PM. Children from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade are eligible to attend this event.

The responsibility of an acolyte is to bring the Light of Jesus Christ into the sanctuary by lighting the candles on the chancel to start our 9am and 11am worship services.

Following this training session, we will have a "Make Your Own Sundae" party. Parents should come back to the church around 8:15 PM to pick up the children.

Sign-up sheets for acolyte volunteers will be distributed to each of the Sunday School classes before this event with a final roster schedule created after this date. Each child should be scheduled for 3 to 4 times during the year to serve as an acolyte.

So, please mark your calendar if your children are interested in serving as an acolyte and are in the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades.

For any questions, please contact Bob Auriemma at 732-477-0436 or e-mail him at marlowave@aol.com. See you there!!

Ice Cream Party



## Junior High Youth Group



Your Junior High Youth Group Leaders Tom Fortier, Kathy Kraynick and Debbie Fortier would like to welcome all 6th through 8th graders to the opening kick off party on September 8th at 6:00pm. As always, it will be a pizza party.

We will have a full calendar of events that we will be going over and handing out at this meeting.

There are two events that I would like you to mark your calendars with now and the 1st event is the Youth Rally at the Union Church in Lavallette on October 12th from 5:30 - 8:00pm and the 2nd event is the Crop Walk at the Toms River Presbyterian Church on October 20th at 1:30pm.

Parents, encourage your children to come out and see what Youth Group is all about, we do a lot of mission work, team building, faith based life lessons and have a great deal of fun.

Please feel free to contact any of the youth leaders or speak to any of the alumni youth members with any questions.

*Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." John 20:19*

## 2013 Influenza & Pneumonia Vaccination Program:

The Health Ministry team is coordinating a Flu Clinic at our church with the Ocean County Health Department. It will be held on Sunday, October 6, 2013 in our Christian Family Life Center from 10 AM to 12:30 PM. We would like you to invite your friends & neighbors to come to this event to be prepared for the upcoming flu season. Questions can be directed to the team through the church office. We hope to see you on October 6<sup>th</sup> to prepare you & your family for the upcoming flu season!



### From the Deacon Bench



Welcome back from the days of summer. We hope that you had the opportunity to kick back a bit. As we head toward fall, we want to remind you about activities and needs that the Deacons meet year round with the assistance and generosity of our congregation.

Our food pantry accepts donations of canned goods and food items for distribution to those in need throughout the year.

Donations of items for those serving in the military are collected in the marked bin in the narthex and delivered for packing and distribution to those serving overseas. To see a list of suggested items, check [http://brickpresby.com/pages/Support\\_Our\\_Military](http://brickpresby.com/pages/Support_Our_Military). Our service men and women work 24/7 and welcome the seemingly simple items that make life so much easier for them.

Visits are made to the hospitalized, homebound and grieving. Your donations of empty metal coffee cans are used to bring the chancel flowers each week with words or notes of remembrance and cheer.

We have members and friends who lack transportation to get to our services. Deacon Joan Erickson coordinates rides with drivers and potential passengers. If interested in serving as a driver, please contact Joan by phone at 732-833-2977 or via e-mail to [transportation@brickpresby.com](mailto:transportation@brickpresby.com).

As you look at the list, we encourage you to help the Deacons by supporting any of the activities above. Your kindness brings the love of our Lord to those in need.

### Did You Know...?



about the Presbyterian Foundation Group?

Whether a Presbyterian gives locally, nationally or globally the group provides a means to support the many missions and ministries of the Presbyterian Church USA. Not only has it helped tens of thousands of Presbyterians with a variety of gift options, but, as a faith based organization. Presbyterian Foundation Group provides an opportunity to invest in mutual funds and investment management services that reflect Christian values.

The Presbyterian Foundation is committed to bring people and mission together. Let the foundation help you realize your passion or goal. Visit [www.presbyterianFoundation.org](http://www.presbyterianFoundation.org) or call 800-858-6127.

*From the Mission and Stewardship Committee*

## **Busy Summer at BPC**

Summer at Brick Presbyterian Church was busy. Here is a partial list to keep you in the loop of what has been going on in this your/our congregation.

### **Related to Hurricane Relief Efforts:**

- Have been hosting wonderful NJ Super Storm Sandy Volunteer Lawyers helping with storm related issue;
- Portable Showers were obtained from the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA);
- Fred, Frank, Frank and Mark assembled the Portable Showers;
- Grant money was received from the Robin Hood Foundation via the Ocean Co. Long Term Recovery Group for costs related to installing portable showers, and the purchase of 25 cots for Volunteer Work Group to use when staying at our church to help in recovery efforts;
- Installed a code required monoxide detector, and received a donation of power strips to recharge electrical devices of our PDA guests.
- A Host Site Committee to receive and provide hospitality for PDA assigned Volunteer Workers who will be staying at Brick Presbyterian Church was drafted and given an orientation to their ministry; and
- Arrangements were made with a local marina to provide shower use for volunteer workers when they come as we await Township Clearance to use the PDA temporary showers. Now we wait for work groups to be scheduled with us in the summer of 2014.

### **Youth Ministry:**

- Roberta Kleban and her son, Dan from our church went to the Youth Triennium in Indiana with others from our Presbytery and had an amazing experience. We hope to hear about their experiences this fall.
- Donna Schlatter and the Christian Ed. Committee organized a wonderful group of volunteer staff and teachers with a great group of kids attending Vacation Bible School on Wednesday nights in July and August this year. It was great to see so many kids having fun and learning about the faith. The energy was really positive.

### **Property, Building and Grounds:**

- Replaced storm gutters and down spouts to reduce potential of recent floods in church basement;
- Made repairs to pews; to a bad spot in narthex floor; worked on replacing the air-conditioning unit that died this summer in the Christian Ed. Building; worked on our internet service and Wi-Fi service;
- Continues to work on sound system and projection needs for Family Life Center, etc.....

## Worship & Fellowship & House of Hope:

- Had a wonderful service and picnic at Windward Beach in July;
- Had a wonderful informal service in the Family Life Center in August;
- Had good turnouts at our combined 10 a.m. worship services;
- Had nice music events by Zack Slater and Legacy By Right

## Other Happenings:

- Were a meeting site for Global Friendship (a youth exchange program with students from Spain);
- Continued to host Ocean Co. Health Department's W.I.C. program serving the needs of the expectant and young moms with children
- Hosted meetings of Grow (a support group) along with two A.A. groups.

## Youth Triennium



Daniel and I enjoyed our week at Triennium. We met so many people! On our two buses were people from Monmouth Presbytery and New Brunswick Presbytery. So we got to know some people from NJ on the way there and then we met people from all over the US and our Global Partners from other countries. We had worship everyday with young people participating with skits and talking about their experiences in life and their walk with God. Every day there were Small Group activities for fun and learning. All through out the week, we could feel the Love of God.

We enjoyed energizing dances, a Street Fair and Communion with 5000 people (mostly all Presbyterian teens) outside on a hill near an Amphitheater at Perdue University. Then we all lit candles. It was amazing. We are so thankful for this wonderful experience.

Roberta and Daniel Kleban

## FUNDRAISING

**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](http://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 [Lawjeffreyl@gmail.com](mailto:Lawjeffreyl@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!



## 4 Reasons to See Your Doctor Now



We've been hearing a lot about why you can skip certain visits to your doctor. Just last week we learned that most women need a Pap test only every three to five years, not annually. Some groups say women don't need a mammogram every year, either. For many men, PSA tests may fall in the category of "not necessary, don't bother." So why should you see your doctor? There are a million reasons, of course, including the obvious ones—you are hacking up blood, you have the worst headache of your life (which, by the way, could be a sign of a stroke), your spouse ran over your foot with the car, it hurts when you do this. But here are four other reasons that should make you think twice before breaking up with the man (or woman) in the white coat.

**1. You're not a doctor.** Watching House on TV doesn't make you an MD. And while googling your health complaints on the web—even on Sharecare—may help you become more informed, it won't get you a definitive diagnosis or the right treatment plan. There's a reason it takes so long to become a physician.

**2. You can't feel every problem.** You can't feel if your blood pressure or cholesterol is too high. You can't feel the symptoms of diabetes if you're not having any symptoms (which many people in the early stages don't). You can't feel if a medication you're taking (maybe even an over-the-counter one) is slowly destroying your liver. And in each of these cases, the sooner you treat what's silently plaguing you, the better.

**3. Symptoms show up where you're not looking.** Did you know that ophthalmologists are often the first doctors to detect diabetes? That skin cancer can appear between your toes or underneath your fingernails? That herpes can appear in strange places, like your nose? Your doctor knows where to look and what to look for.

**4. Someday, the stuff might hit the fan.** And if it does, having a relationship with a doctor you know and trust can be a tremendous help. Being comfortable with your doctor also makes it easier to talk about those embarrassing symptoms, like problems in the bathroom or pain "down there," that might be nothing or might signal a serious health problem. If you can't remember that last time you saw a doctor, you're probably due. Don't have a doctor? Get one. (Let's face it, if you didn't have someone to cut your hair, you'd find someone long before it got embarrassing. And your health is a touch more important.) Don't like your doctor? Find a new one. And no, House and McDreamy don't count.

From "sharecare" website

## *Destiny's Bridge* - The Dream for the Future of the Homeless



Harry Houdini, Suze Orman, Sylvester Stallone, Steve Jobs, David Letterman, Gordon Parks, Tyler Perry, Harland Colonel Sanders, Charlie Chaplin, Ella Fitzgerald, Chris Gardner, Jewel ... these are just a sampling of some well known people who have experienced periods of homelessness - whether it be living in a car, sleeping on the sofa of a friend or relative, or staying in a homeless shelter.

On August 7th, the plight of our homeless brothers and sisters living in Tent City became more widely known to the general public in a documentary directed by Jack Ballo. At the premiere of "Destiny's Bridge" at Two Rivers Theatre in Red Bank, Mr. Ballo told the audience, "My job is to tell the truth. Your job is to form an opinion." The film depicted the living conditions at Tent City, the personal struggles of many of its dwellers, and the political and legal controversy that has surrounded the encampment. Destiny's Bridge is the name of a proposed transitional community that will work with those who have known homelessness by providing a very simple home in which to live and responsibilities that will support and foster the well being of the community. The goal is to equip the residents with job training, counseling and support in preparation to return to society.

Our church has provided support to Tent City in a number of ways and the value of that support was evident in the film. One scene featured a thriving vegetable garden. Tools, soil and plants were provided by our youth groups and church community for the garden. Gratitude was expressed repeatedly during the film for donations of clothing, food and other household goods. The documentary showed scenes in which the items not used by the dwellers of Tent City were taken to the Lakewood Town Square on a weekly basis to be shared with others in need, highlighting the fact that so many of those at the Town Square are one step away from homelessness. Donations that are regularly received from our congregation and transported to Tent City are getting to those who can most use them, whether at Tent City or in the larger community.

A panel discussion featuring Jack Ballo, Minister Steven Brigham and seven of the residents featured in the film followed the viewing during which questions from the audience were answered. Four of the residents on the panel are now in permanent housing and participate in programs designed to aid them during this stage of their lives.

The premiere of the documentary was an outstanding success. The event was sold out and 100 people were turned away at the theatre. Plans are under way for another showing and will be announced when available. For further information about the film, you may go to <http://www.destinysbridge.com>.

On another note, we are delighted to report that our church has received a \$400 grant from the Monmouth Presbytery's Cents-Ability program to financially help us with our food assistance program to Tent City in the coming year. We urge you to continue donating usable clothing and household goods and we always welcome new members to the Tent City Relief Committee. If you have questions or require additional information, please contact Jean Reilly at 732-295-1605 or [jreilly@comcast.net](mailto:jreilly@comcast.net).

- *The Tent City Relief Committee*