

Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

September 2016

A Pastoral Reflection on Rio

(First read 1 Corinthians chapter 12 as a devotional scripture.)



As I sit at my keyboard, the Olympics are underway in Rio with Team USA off to a fantastic start. So often in sports we focus only on the super stars, overlooking others who are also vitally important to a team's, or even a superstar's success.

Imagine for a moment if we did not have a full contingent of players to fill all the positions on a basketball or soccer team. Our team would be outnumbered. The chances of having a successful outcome would be greatly diminished. Or suppose we did not have some extra players sitting on the bench in reserve to help relieve a tired player or replace an injured competitor, how might our team do? Too often we downplay the importance of those who show up for a game and sit on the bench. Those sitting on the bench may not necessarily get actual game time and so perhaps feel like they aren't needed. But that would be a faulty thought to entertain. Without that person on the bench as back up, what would the team do if a player got sidelined for one reason or another? Without that player on the bench observing and cheering for fellow teammates where would the key players find the energy and encouragement to do one's best?

The fact of the matter is that in the word "*Team*" there is no "*I*". A team is everyone pulling together for something greater than self. Each player has a special role. Not all may be stars. Not all may be noticed by the crowd. But without everyone showing up, the team would be the less. We speak of home field advantage in sports. A team's fans cheer and add energy to the players on the field. The fans aren't playing, yet their presence can make a difference in the team on the field and the players on the bench.

So it is with the church. Each of us has a role to play. Not everyone may be a Ruling Elder, a Pastor, a Deacon, a member of the church staff, a Sunday School Teacher. Yet, every one of us has an important role to play as we seek to worship and serve on the Team of Jesus Christ, known as the Church. Sitting on the bench or in a church pew may not seem exciting. Yet, think of how wonderful it feels to see the sanctuary full at Christmas and Easter. Think of how moving the hymns are when there are more voices singing. Think of the sense of energy that is present when Christ's players come back into the stadium (the church building). Think of how much better our Sunday School would be if all the children were present on a regular basis to learn about what it means to be loved by Jesus and to share that love with the world. Imagine if you can God's team (each and every one of us) showing up each game day (Sunday and other times) to play, to cheer, to worship, fellowship together and strengthen our ties to one another and more importantly to the Lord who is both our team owner and coach. Let's begin this fall season with a full contingent of our team. We all have a role to play. Let's go team!.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, September 11

We will be returning to regular worship services at **9:00** and **11:00**.
We hope to see everyone there!



Sunday, September 18
Sunday School begins at 9am

Sunday, September 18

Welcome Back Pancake Breakfast between services



Sunday, September 18
Catch a friend bring 'em in
Bring a friend to church and to
Join you at our Pancake Breakfast.
It's also name tag Sunday
Evangelism and Outreach

Sunday, September 25
One service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary
Sunday School at 10:00am
25th Anniversary Lunch for Doug
11:30am in the FLC



Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn't have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen!

Join the team from our church who will be walking in the Ocean County CROP Hunger Walk scheduled to take place in Toms River during the afternoon on October 16, 2016. Watch for further details of this intergenerational event and be part of our team – as a walker or as a donor - as we strive to end hunger one step at a time!

FUNDRAISING

CHRYSANTHEMUM SALE



To start off the fall season, The Fundraising Committee will be holding our mum sale on **Sunday, September 18**. These beautiful plants will be available for sale on a first come/first served basis at a cost of \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00. Cash or check is acceptable.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS AND POINSETTIAS

During our mum sale we will be taking pre-orders for 22-24" Christmas Wreaths and 6" and 8" Poinsettia plants. The beautifully decorated wreaths will be priced at \$30.00, the 6" Poinsettia at \$15 or 3 for \$30 and the 8" Poinsettia at \$25 each. More information will be available during our mum sale.

BOSCOV'S FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS EVENT



We will be selling Boscov's Department Store's Friends Helping Friends Event 25%-off passes again this year so please stop by our table. The event will take place on **Tuesday, October 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.** Each pass is \$5.00 and entitles you to the 25% discount, refreshments, entertainment and a chance to win prizes. The pass can be used multiple times at multiple locations throughout NJ, NY, PA, MD, DEL and OH.

Youth Group News!

The Youth Groups will be meeting on **September 18th** from **6:00 - 7:30pm** in the Family Life Center for their annual pizza party to kick off the new season!

Youth Group is for children in 6th through 12th grades so we would like to welcome all new 6th grade students to come out and join us to see what all the fun is about.

We have a full year planned with meetings, mission work, fellowship, outside events and lots of fun.

Junior High Leaders are Kathy Kraynick, Tom and Debbie Fortier
Senior High Leaders are Vic Erickson and Donna Schlatter



"Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but many. 1 Corinthians 12:14"



SAVE THE DATE
HALLOWEEN Party
Friday, October 21st
More Information to Follow

Flu & Pneumonia Vaccinations

On Sunday, **October 2, from 10a.m. to 12 noon**, we will again be offering these vaccinations in cooperation with the Ocean County Health Department in our Family Life Center. Influenza and Pneumonia vaccinations are **free** if enrolled in Medicare Part B (\$20 if not enrolled). Please remember to bring your Medicare card.

Specific vaccines this year will include: **High dose Influenza* (trivalent vaccine), **Regular, Preservative-Free Influenza* (quadrivalent vaccine), **Intradermal, Preservative-free Influenza* (quadrivalent vaccine), **Pediatric, Preservative-Free Influenza* (quadrivalent vaccine), **Pneumonia23 Pneumococcal vaccine*.

Flu season & winter are coming so be prepared and get vaccinated !



Our Church family celebrates our staff and their employment anniversaries...

- **Ed Murphy**, Minister of Choral Music, 9 years in September
- **Christy Tompkins**, Music Ministry, 16 years in September
- **Pastor Doug Chase**, 25 years in September



You are Invited to Join Us at the Mission Fair on October 9th

Do you know about all of the ministries and activities Brick Presbyterian Church provides to enhance our experience of faith and improve the lives of our members, those in our community, and the world at large?

You are invited to join us at our Mission Fair on **Sunday, October 9, 2016 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** in the Family Life Center. The Fair will showcase the internal ministries offered at Brick Presbyterian Church and those community organizations for which we provide some measure of support. It's a great opportunity for you to learn more about the many ways in which our congregation strives to walk with Jesus as we bring God's love and care into our daily lives here and in the community near and far.

Please plan to join us for this special event on **October 9th!**

WEDDING BELLS!

Ashley Horan and **Theodore Palumbo** were united in marriage on **July 9, 2016**, in Foxboro, Massachusetts. The bride was escorted down the aisle by her brother, **Gary Horan III**. God Bless the newlyweds!





1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & ...



If you are able to read the title above and count it without reading, then we can use you in the **BPC Hand Bell Choir** (*with chimes*). *The Hand Bell Choir may be the ultimate expression of music-making as a community of believers.* The ensemble cannot function without each individual; at the same time, the contribution of each individual is meaningless apart from the whole. There is no 'I' in ensemble.

A Hand Bell ensemble generally requires at least ten ringers (minimum) to perform the three-octave range of music found in our usual repertoire today. Although it is sometimes possible to perform this music with fewer people, the ringer might be challenged to handle multiple bells in one hand and/or switch quickly from one bell to another. Furthermore, if the ensemble is operating with the minimum number, even one absence at a rehearsal or service can make it very difficult for the ensemble to perform.

BUT WAIT, there's hope! There is **YOU!** **YOU** can help us perform anthems and hymn accompaniments without the challenges mentioned above; and without any special experience, other than a willing attitude to serve our Lord. If you were able to *read the title above*, we have a great team of ringers who will assist you as you learn to mark your music and ***RING THOSE BELLS as instruments of Worship!*** Ideal conditions and flawless performances aren't the most important elements of hand bell choir performances in the Worship Service, I think it's exciting to see all these hands working together to *praise the Lord!*

Our weekly rehearsals for 2016/2017 are held on Monday evenings beginning at **7:00 pm** beginning **Monday, September 12th** in **Room 102**. We learn the music, the ringing technique and how God worked in the lives of the composers to give us the legacy of music we enjoy today. In addition, we enjoy a fun fellowship and a good time with new friends.

I have heard so many excellent comments on the music you enjoy and now you can become a part of this vital ministry. We are commanded to "*speak to each other in psalms and spiritual songs,*" and the Hand Bell Choir is one venue that allows you to bring the joy of music to others and fulfill this command. Will **YOU** join us?

Richard Christen
Organist and Minister
of Instrumental Music



Take a few minutes each day to reflect on a great hymn of the faith.

Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.

Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord,

always giving thanks to God the Father for everything,

in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph. 5:19-20

Earn Your Wings

The "Earn Your Wings" project was created by the Youth Group many, many years ago to provide less fortunate children in our community with Christmas gifts. Long ago it was just referred to as the "Lock In". The phrase "Lock In" came about because the Youth Groups lock themselves into the church for an overnight stay consisting of wrapping all the gifts they purchased, fellowship, games and all night fun.



Earn Your Wings

The phrase "Earn Your Wings" was created in 2013 to try and bring the full meaning of the affect the donations from the congregation brings to the children in our community that would not have any Christmas gifts under their tree if not for these generous donations.

The Youth Group works closely with the Brick school guidance counselors to obtain the most needy families in their system. Our one requirement is that each needy child create a wish list of items they would love to have under their tree. With the funds raised the Youth Groups have been able to provide each child with just about every item on their list.

We feel that "Earn Your Wings" was the most appropriate phrase for this project as each and every donation received from each and every person has been through the work of God and Angels are Gods helpers and messengers as are all of you who make this mission project a huge success every year.

DEACONS UPDATE



It's September, and we hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful summer. With the fall season quickly approaching, the deacons focus on replenishing the **Food Pantry** so that we may be fully prepared for filling Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for needy families this holiday season. Please continue to bring in your donations of non-perishable food items and place them in the designated bin in the Narthex.

Here at BPC, we support the **members of our Armed Forces**. Deacons deliver donations from our congregation to American Recreational Military Services for assembly into care packages that are distributed to our service men and women in Afghanistan and Iraq. Please continue to bring in your donations of needed items and placed them in the designated bin in the Narthex.

For detailed lists of suggested items for both the Food Pantry and the military donations, please visit our church website and click on "Deacons."

Deacons are always in need of your **empty coffee cans**. We decorate the cans and then use them when we deliver the Sanctuary flowers as we try to bring a bit of cheer to our hospitalized and/or homebound members every Sunday. Just bring the cans in when you are able and place them on the cart near the kitchen area in the narthex. Thank you!

Thank you very much for your contributions and continued support for the work of the Deacons. All efforts are greatly appreciated.