

Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

November 2023



Spreading joy is so much fun!

I had such a lovely day at work today. I'll spare you the details, but to sum it up, it was all about spreading joy, celebrating love and life, and living life Jesus' way. I witnessed people being fed, grieving people being comforted, and children being nurtured. The Holy Spirit is surely working in and through Brick Presbyterian Church and I am so grateful!

I'd like to give you a little update about Youth Group. We have already had quite a bit of fun in just the past 2 months, including: a bowling outing, youth room cleanup (who knew they'd be willing to do that – and with gusto?!), a Beach Creation Care lesson, Corn Maze and Harvestfestival, and we learned how to make caramel apples! And we have so much more planned!

There are a number of ways in which the Youth Group could use your support. Please contact me if you are willing to help out!

1. Meals for Youth Group events (food can be purchased or homemade):
 - a. November 5 – lunch. Suggestion: Sandwiches, chips, fruit, brownies.
 - b. November 26 – lunch. Suggestion: Hot Dogs, chips, fruit, brownies.
 - c. December 8 – Dinner, dessert, snacks, breakfast. This is the annual Angel Wings shopping trip and Lock-in!! Suggestion: Pizza, ice cream sundae bar, chips, cookies, brownies, popcorn, breakfast items.
 - d. December 17 - lunch. Suggestion: Sandwiches, chips, fruit, brownies.
2. The Youth are in the process of renovating their room in the upper floor of the Christian Ed building. We need:
 - a. Painters
 - b. General handy help
 - c. Muscles to carry some heavy items upstairs
 - d. Beanbag chairs
 - e. Items that the youth might enjoy such as a ping pong table, puzzles, games, etc.
 - f. Prepackaged snacks for their “snack bar”
 - g. Bluetooth speakers
 - h. Dry erase markers

3. There are two retreats at Camp Johnsonburg coming up. We could use some chaperones (male and female). If you've never been to a youth retreat at Camp J-burg before, it really is a blast! The camp takes care of all the programming; chaperones are there to support the kids, provide supervision, and provide transportation. Chaperones must complete a background check and child safety training (short, online). The retreats are:
 - a. November 17 – 19 for Senior Highs;
 - b. December 1 – 3 for Junior Highs.
4. On Sunday, November 5, the Youth Group is partnering with the Mission & Evangelism Committee for a unique event in the FLC. Everyone is invited to participate with the Youth! This event will raise money to support Ocean's Harbor House, which provides shelter, support, and services to vulnerable youth and families from Ocean and Monmouth Counties in New Jersey, as well as across the entire state.
 - a. Cost: \$20 per participant (or you can sponsor a participant)
 - b. Participants will walk the perimeter (clockwise) of the FLC while music is playing. When the music stops, participants go to a station and participate in the station's activity. Participants will carry around a punch card to check off each station and check off how many laps they do.
 - c. We walk the equivalent of 2 miles (great way to get your "steps" in!)
 - d. We also need to create and staff each station. The stations will each address one factor of homelessness, especially for youth. Stations include:
 - i. Set up a tent and ask participants to imagine what it would be like to live there.
 - ii. Bathing station: imagine how homeless youth can keep themselves and their belongings clean.
 - iii. Food: how will homeless youth get / cook food?
 - iv. Have them crawl under an obstacle to simulate getting into places for shelter that are really off-limits.
 - v. Set up a chair in the middle of the room and have participants take turns sitting in it to highlight how lonely and scary it would be to watch the world carry on around you while you are homeless.
 - vi. Posters with scriptures about caring for the poor, the "orphan", etc. Ask participants to think about why Christians should care about this issue.
 - vii. Safety concerns: Human Labor Trafficking. What is it, how to avoid it, how to be aware of it, what to do if you think someone is being trafficked.
 - viii. Sleep in a Car simulation: large cardboard boxes on their sides, put chairs in it for the seats.
 - ix. Charging Station: "Your phone is dead...where can you plug in to charge it up?"

Thank you for supporting and nurturing our children and youth – they were obviously important to Jesus (Matthew 19:14) – they are so precious to us today – and will be the future of this church in just a few short years!

God loves you and so do I!

Pastor Kristie

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

There will be envelopes placed in the church pews starting **November 26 through December 17, 2023** to donate for Christmas flowers in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. Please consider donating to beautify our church for Christmas. Thank you.



DECORATING FOR ADVENT

The Worship Committee is asking for your help!

We will be decorating the church for Advent and Christmas after the worship service on **November 26th**. We have several trees to decorate and other decorations including the Manger outside.



Please consider giving 30 minutes of your time to make our church festive for the holiday season.

God Bless you and thank you for your help!

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

CHURCH SCHOOL BULLETIN BOARD



SAVE THE DATE !

December 10th, for the Christmas Pageant!

Watch for further information.

The Pumpkin Patch Event was enjoyed by children and youth! They had a lot of fun decorating their pumpkins and the results were great!

Is it you?... Help Wanted... Looking for an adult volunteer for one Sunday a month; to assist another adult with the Nursery; or to assist in a Church School classroom.



For further information, please contact Lorrie Haluza, 732-477-0676 or by email: bpcsundayschool111@gmail.com

But Jesus called for them and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs." Luke 18:16

FUNDRAISING NEWS



Dine To Donate – Restaurant Fundraiser

We will be offering a restaurant fundraiser on **November 7 and 8 for lunch and dinner at Yokohama Sushi and Hibachi Restaurant** on Brick Boulevard in Brick. Visit brickpresby.com for the flyer and more information.

Christmas Cards

This is a new fundraiser for us. We will be selling specialty Christmas cards, handcrafted in Tennessee. **These cards are not the typical boxed cards - you have to see them to appreciate them!** We will have a limited number of each of three scenes. Perfect for sending to a special person on your list this year!



Thanksgiving Pie Sale

Order forms are now available for Cameo Cakes' delicious Thanksgiving pies!



Pick up an order form from a Fundraising Committee member. Orders and payment are **due by Sunday, November 12, 2023** and pies must be picked up at the church on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 (times to be announced). You may also visit brickpresby.com for the order form & further information.

Christmas Cookie Sale

>>>> CALLING ALL COOKIE BAKERS! <<<<<

Our annual Christmas Cookie Sale is coming up on **December 16, 2023** from 12:00 – 4:00.



With the generosity of our church members we are able to have a very successful event every year. **A sign-up sheet will be available soon for you to volunteer to bake your family favorites and add to the wide variety of cookies in our inventory for the sale.**

This sale will be open to the community so join us in welcoming our neighbors to BPC.

Christmas Gift Wrapping at Boscov's



We have the opportunity again this Holiday Season to wrap Christmas gifts at Boscov's in exchange for donations to BPC. **A sign-up sheet is available** with select dates and times during November and December.



Poinsettias, Grave Blankets and Christmas Wreaths

- Decorated wreaths, approx. 25" (\$30.00);
- 6" Poinsettias (\$15.00 ea or 3 for \$30.00);
 - 8" Poinsettias (\$25.00);
- 4 ft. decorated grave blankets (\$45.00)

NOW ON SALE with orders and payment due by early November (date to be announced).
Order forms are available in the Narthex.

Please remember our ongoing fundraisers!

The Holiday Season is a perfect time to remember or honor a loved one or to commemorate a special date or event with a Hymnal Dedication or a Memorial Brick.

Hymnal Dedications are available throughout the year to remember or honor a loved one.

Memorial Bricks for placement on the walkway in our Memorial Garden may be ordered.



Please see a Fundraising Committee member for order forms if you are interested. You may also find the forms on the BPC website under the Fundraising tab.

HANDS ON MISSION GROUP

Prayer Squares Needed



Hi Ladies!

We need additional Prayer Squares for the Thanksgiving food baskets. Any Knitters or Crocheters who would like to join in this mission are welcome. You can work at home, and if you need yarn, I have some – just let me know. **We need to**

supply about 100 baskets, so we can use your help! Contact me with any questions. Thank you!



Lori Evans, Coordinator

DEACONS CORNER



Imagine the worry that accompanies food insecurity.

How would you feel if you needed to travel from one food bank to another to feed your family for the week? Imagine being incarcerated and after serving your debt to society not being able to make ends meet. Think of the sense of calm and gratitude you would feel finding a place in your community that you can turn to when times are tough.

The food pantry at Brick Presbyterian Church has become just that place for many in our local community and these are just a few of the stories our volunteers have heard. At this moment, food banks across the United States are squeezed between short supplies and surging demand from needy families.

Unfortunately, our food pantry is facing the same challenges. The number of needy families seems to be increasing on a weekly basis and that demand has caused our shelves to empty at a rate the deacons are struggling to keep up with. The Deacons want to continue to offer this invaluable service to those in need and to do that we are asking for the congregation's continued generous support.

There are many ways you can help this worthwhile cause. You can donate food items, make a monetary donation, or volunteer your time. Please know that every item and bit of time is appreciated more than words can say.



With the holidays approaching, the following items are on the Deacons Food Pantry wish list:

cream of chicken soup	canned yams	oatmeal
chicken broth	canned corn	coffee
hearty soup	canned peas	tea
chicken noodle soup	canned carrots	saltines
juice	canned fruit	ramen noodles
baked beans	pancake mix	crackers
mashed potatoes	syrup	

Thank you in advance for all you do to support this ministry.

The Deacons want to thank all those who gave blood or helped at the blood drive on



October 6, 2023 -- It was a huge success! When you give blood you give someone another birthday, another anniversary, another day at the beach, another talk with a friend, another laugh, and another chance. Jesus continues to show his love for us through people just like you.

HELP BPC SHINE BRIGHT!



On Stewardship Dedication Sunday, November 12th, we will be offering our pledges of time, talents, and treasures to support the ministries of our congregation.

It was so long ago that Moses spoke to God's people noting that, "the Lord your God has increased your numbers so that you are as many as the stars in the sky." (Deuteronomy 1:10) Here we are – so many generations later in this land and in this place – as stars hoping to serve God, to serve those who come to our church, and to serve those in a world that needs the assurance of God's love.

We ask you to prayerfully consider how you can share your time, talents, and treasures to support Brick Presbyterian Church as we strive to shine for generations to come! You may return your pledge card on November 12th. If you are not able to join us that day, please feel free to mail it or drop it off at the church.

Bring your tithes and special gifts, what you have vowed to give.
(Deuteronomy 12:6)

LARRY'S HOME

Throughout this year, a number of activities at our church have generated contributions to be dedicated for the construction of **Larry's Home in Little Egg Harbor**, a transitional housing facility to support individuals struggling with homelessness and assist them in overcoming any barriers in reentering community living.



Thank you for your contributions, which now total \$1,055. We look forward to presenting the funds to Just Believe Inc., the sponsor of Larry's Home.



MISSION & EVANGELISM NEWS



Ocean's Harbor House builds awareness, provides shelter, and assists with support services for children and families experiencing homelessness. BPC supports this mission, and this month, Mission & Evangelism is pairing with our Youth Group to raise awareness and support with an event in the FLC on November 5.

To learn more about Ocean's Harbor House, you can visit their website at OceansHarborHouse.org.

Destiny's Bridge - We are working with the Deacons to support Destiny's Bridge, a homeless encampment in our area. The mission of Destiny's Bridge is to be a place where people who have found themselves without a home can heal, become strong, and be empowered.



For further information please go to the website at: DestinysBridge.org

The Mission and Evangelism Committee is in the process of building and organizing strategies of evangelism in our community.

Prayerfully consider joining the Mission and Evangelism Committee.

Please ask Marty Haluza or Brian Aldrich about ways that you can help.

THANK YOU!



THANK YOU for helping Girl Scout Rylee Sherwood "Fill The Classrooms."

As her Silver Award project, **Rylee Sherwood** spearheaded a collection of school supplies for teachers in the Brick Township schools so they have plenty of backups during the school year for students who lose items or forget to bring them from home. Thank you to all who responded to her request this summer by donating much needed items.

HELP NEEDED

Updated for November



Are you looking for another way to share your time and talents in praise of the Glory of God?

The church needs volunteers because as the Bible states, “If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” 1 Corinthians 12:26

This column will list the current needs of various BPC groups and committees, as submitted by the group leaders. **Here are a few of the wonderful opportunities available at BPC –**

Church School - The Nursery needs an adult for childcare help the 3rd Sunday of the month, 9:45-11 a.m. Also, adults and high school students are needed to assist Church School on one or more Sundays a month. For further information, see Lorrie Haluza or call the church office at 732-477-0676 or email bpcsundayschool111@gmail.com .

The Hands On Mission Group/Outreach – Volunteers are wanted to work on some easy, fun, craft and sewing projects, such as teddy bears for Baptisms. Prayer squares (crochet or knit), which will be placed in the Brick Hospital Chapel & Shorrock Nursing Home, are always needed. All projects may be done at home. Contact Coordinator Lori Evans at lmegolfer@gmail.com.

Bell Choir – Bell ringers are needed. Practices are held weekly on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m., and the Bells play during Worship on the 4th Sunday of each month. If interested in joining this music ministry, please contact Bonnie Luton or the church office at 732-477-0676.

Fundraising Committee – Seeking new members to join our fun, energetic group. Are you interested? If so, contact Linda Kathenes (848-333-5119, JLin52@comcast.net) or Lynn Mizer (732-966-6240, lmizer@comcast.net).

Communications Committee - Deacon Michael Candeloro is looking for assistance with the communications of our live feed from Sunday’s Service. Please contact him if you’re available at email michael.candeloro55@gmail.com.

Worship Committee - Members are welcome to join in the work of providing meaningful Worship of God at BPC. A wide variety of responsibilities dedicated to Worship are shared among all committee members. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:45 p.m. Contact Tom Fortier at tfortier111@gmail.com or 848-333-2599.



If you are a group leader and need volunteers, simply email your info to bpcnewsletter111@gmail.com before the 15th of the month, to be included here next month.

“The generous will prosper; those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.” Proverbs 11:25



SPECIAL DAYS IN NOVEMBER



11/5



11/11



11/23



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Boscov's Gift Wrapping - Sign-up sheet is available
- Poinsettias, Wreaths, & Grave Blankets orders due - Early Nov., date TBA
- Christmas Card fundraiser - Details coming soon
- Daylight Savings Time ends-Clocks back 1 hr - 11/5
- YG & Mission/Evangelism Ocean's Harbor House event - 11/5
- Yokohama Sushi & Hibachi Restaurant fundraiser - 11/7 & 11/8
- Thanksgiving Pie orders due - 11/12
- Stewardship Sunday - 11/12
- Pick up Thanksgiving pies - 11/21
- Advent/Christmas decorating today - 11/26
- Christmas Flowers donation envelopes available - 11/26-12/17
- Children's Christmas Pageant - 12/10
- Cookie bakers needed - Sign-up sheet coming soon
- Christmas Cookie Sale - 12/16



See the [Events tab](#) on the BPC web site for further details.



Follow BPC on [facebook](#), [Instagram](#) & [YouTube](#)

get  CONNECTED



Please Note!

The Good Tidings newsletter is sent monthly to the BPC family via Constant Contact email. ***If you know of any members not currently receiving Constant Contact mailers, please have them notify the church office with their email address so they can receive future mailings.***

The Good Tidings is also available in condensed PDF format (with no personal info) on the church website.

We will continue with worship services online as well as live-streaming in the Sanctuary – please join us! These services are also on our website in case you miss one and would like to go back and watch.

