

Good Tidings

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

October 2026



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Rev. Jack Cherry, Pastor

Dear Friends,



I was asked, a few Sundays ago, how I am able to shift so quickly from the serious questions of good and evil to goofy and corny jokes. And the question was asked as a serious compliment. So after I said "Thank You" my answer was quite simple: "Sometimes life is serious, painfully serious, and sometimes life is goofy, corny, refreshing and funny."

I have always believed that when scripture tells us that humanity is created "in the image of God," it is a statement about our character, our personalities, our abilities to love, to confess, to forgive, to cry and to laugh.

Our problem is that we often don't get the joke! When Jesus was speaking about the difficulty of the wealthy people entering heaven, he said it was like "a camel passing through the eye of a needle". Picture that - go ahead, I'll wait - can you imagine Jesus saying that without a twinkle in his eye and a smirk on his lips? He had a serious point to make, but he made it with a laughable word picture! Or have you ever looked at a platypus and wondered what God had in mind? I've heard the platypus described as a creature, assembled by God, with all of the leftover parts at creation! Will you ever look at a platypus picture again without thinking of that description?

The ability to laugh, the ability to share moments of joy, the sacredness of giving and getting a smile, these are the things that God has created us to do, together, so that we can face the serious and tragic things of life, together.

I mentioned, in a sermon a year or so ago, the ancient wisdom of the Prophet, Stephen Stills: "We gotta keep on keepin' on. Because if we don't do it, nobody else is gonna. But you know, if we can't do it with a smile on our face, you know, if we can't do it with love in our hearts, then, children, we ain't got no right to do it at all. Because that just means we ain't learned nothing yet..."

So keep smiling, my friends! And if the smiles grow into giggles and guffaws accept them and share them as gifts from God, moments of spiritual sunshine in a world that is, too often, dark and cloudy! And bring those smiles with you to worship this month, those of us "up front" do enjoy and appreciate them!

Peace,
Jack Cherry

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

FUNDRAISING UPDATE



**JOIN
BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FOR A
SHRIMP AND SCALLOP
DINNER!**

***Chicken available for Land Lubbers!**

**October 16th
5:00pm-7:30pm
\$25/ Per Person**

BYOB

**Take out
orders
available
with ticket**

**For tickets call:
Diane 732-232-4293
or
Kellie 732-979-0883
111 Drum Point Road, Brick, NJ 08723**



Bosco's Coupon Event is Almost Here!

Purchase a \$5 coupon and most items are 25% off on **October 21**.

If anyone is interested in helping sell the coupons, we have open dates up-to and prior-to the event. Your help is appreciated! Please contact Linda, 848.333.5119 or Lynn, 732.262.9362.

Visit the Fundraising table for coupons or more information.

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR ON-GOING FUNDRAISERS



Ink Cartridges Collection

Bring them in and deposit them in the designated black trash can at the entry to the FLC. ***Proceeds help with the cost of printing for the church committees for special events.***

Hymnal Dedications and Memorial Bricks

Hymnal Dedications and Memorial Bricks, both of which are available throughout the year, are two memorials that are a wonderful way to remember or honor a loved one or to commemorate a special date or event!

Order forms can be found on the BPC website, or visit the fundraising table.



FOOD PANTRY



The Food Pantry team and our recipients are deeply grateful for the generous donations from our church family and community. If you would like to help, our most requested items are:

- Applesauce
- Black tea
- Canned corn
- Canned green beans
- Chili
- Coffee (instant or regular)
- Corn muffin mix
- Dog and cat food
- Jell-O gelatin
- Mashed potatoes
- Ramen noodles
- Ravioli
- SpaghettiOs

Our request for volunteer shoppers has been very successful!

Many people have stepped forward to help, and we are grateful for your continued support. The sign-up sheet is available in the lobby.

Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors!



VETERANS DAY SERVICE



Our Veterans Day service will take place **November 8th** at 10:00 a.m.



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

Step beyond the boundaries of our neighborhood and into the life of the worldwide church!

The World Communion Offering at its core invites us to something different — to act on a commitment we say has its root and its core expression at the table. This Offering is a way to act: to stand alongside people and organizations breaking down the very barriers set aside at Christ's table. As the Offering seeks the wholeness of all peoples from all nations of the globe, the PC(USA) works with others to connect, equip, and accompany people in shared work and witness for God's work in the world to address racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations.

The table is set, and all are invited! We join siblings in Christ across the globe in God's mission of welcome, justice, and hope as we endeavor to see God's image more clearly in one another.

World Communion Sunday will be celebrated on October 4th and **the World Communion Offering will take place in our church on October 11th.** Please give generously!

"What does the Lord require of you? ... to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." – Micah 6:8

TOWN-WIDE YARD SALE



Saturday, October 3
8:00am-2:00pm

Buy a table for \$5

OR

Donate items for Youth Group to sell
For the Earn Your Wings Project

Contact the church office for further information.



TRUNK OR TREAT

Car Sign Up

Have your vehicle be a part of our first ever TRUNK OR TREAT on Friday, **October 23, 5:30-8:00 p.m.**

Minimum \$5.00 donation to reserve your spot.

Email: bpcsundayschool111@gmail.com or text 732703-3145 with any questions. *See Lauren for the form.*



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Blood Drive - 9/29
- Town-Wide Yard Sale, 8am-2pm - 10/3
- World Communion Offering received - 10/11
- Shrimp & Scallop Dinner, 5-7:30pm - 10/16
- Boscov's Coupon Sale Event - 10/21
- Trunk or Treat, 5:30-8pm, 10/23
- Veterans Day service, 10am - 11/8



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



RECOVERY AT BPC

AA Meetings in Fellowship Hall

Daily - 7 a.m.

Friday – 12 p.m., 8 p.m.

Saturday – 7 p.m.

Light of Life Recovery Bible Group in Room 4

Tuesday - 7:00PM

NA Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Thursday - 6:30 p.m.



BPC ONLINE GIVING



Please go to www.brickpresby.com/give-now/, and click on the "GIVE NOW" button to make an online donation to Brick Presbyterian Church



HELP NEEDED

Updated for October

Faithful Remnants/Hands On Mission Group – Volunteers are wanted to work on some easy, fun, craft and sewing projects, such as teddy bears for Baptisms. We also need prayer squares (crochet or knit), knitted and quilted blankets, as well as prayer shawls and baby hats. All projects may be done at home. Call Elaine Salto with any questions you may have.

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 Missy Brino at 732-691-6209 or at msbrino@gmail.com or Tom Fortier at tfortier111@gmail.com or 848-333-2599.

Bell Choir – Bell ringers are needed; **NO MUSIC BACKGROUND REQUIRED - WE TRAIN! All ages are welcome** – We'd love to have one or more of our talented young people join us! Practices are held weekly on Monday at 5:00 p.m., and the Bells play during Worship on the 4th Sunday of each month. If you are interested in joining this music ministry, please contact Bonnie Luton or the church office at 732-477-0676.

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 OCTOBER



10/12



10/31





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.

Follow BPC on facebook, Instagram, & YouTube

