



Between the Bricks

September/October 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Read 2 Corinthians 4: 7-18

Between the Bricks is the mortar that binds the individual bricks together to form a strong, unified structure. This newsletter, published for the members of the Old Brick Reformed Church, is the mortar that binds us together, and helps us to minister as a vital congregation of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday

8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Wednesday and Thursday

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Pastor

Reverend George Kaden
pastor@oldbrickchurch.org

Director of Music

Edward L. Krogstad
krogorgan@aol.com

Administrator

Minerva Millward
secretary@oldbrickchurch.org

Webmaster

Thomas Bynoe
Webmaster
@oldbrickchurch.org

OLD BRICK REFORMED CHURCH

490 County Rt. 520

P.O. Box 153

Marlboro, NJ 07746

Phone: (732) 946-8860

Fax: (732) 946-9254

<http://www.oldbrickchurch.org>

Without warning, a man hit rock bottom in his life. One day he was called into his boss's office. The boss told him to shut the door and sit down because he had some bad news. Because the company was struggling, the boss was being forced to "let some people go," and this man happened to be one of the unfortunate ones.

As you can well imagine, the man was devastated. He felt worthless, unwanted, and humiliated. Worst of all, he'd have to tell his young wife the news. He was feeling like a failure and ashamed because he felt he had let her down.

To his utter amazement, when he broke the news to her, she shouted, "Why, that's great news!" "Now you can begin writing that book that you've always wanted to write. Now's your chance" she said. "I can't do that," the man replied. "I've got to put food on the table for us." Again the man's wife surprised him. "No problem," she said. "I've been saving money every month for just such a time as this. And now, I have enough saved for us to live on for a whole year and then some."

With that she opened up a drawer and took out a large sum of money that she had hidden there. So, what did the man do? He started writing the book he had always wanted to write. When it was finished, his book was published and became one of the all-time best-selling classics of literature. Can you guess the name of the book and the author's name? The book is entitled: "The Scarlet Letter," and the author is Nathaniel Hawthorne. This is a true story you see. What a wonderful perspective Hawthorne's young wife possessed. In spite of their very trying circumstance, she made, as the old saying goes, "lemonade out of lemons."

That's the positive, encouraging perspective the Apostle Paul is describing with the believers in Corinth in the passage I asked you to read identified above. It's important to note when Paul wrote these words he was in prison because he'd been publicly proclaiming Christ as Lord and yet was not discouraged.

Has life thrown a lot of "lemons" your way? Are you making "lemonade" out of those lemons or have you allowed your trials to disable and paralyze you? Remember, as Christians we always have hope in Christ. Knowing His watchful eye is always upon us, He'll never allow us to be crushed. We should never be driven to despair because this "slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison". As we fix our eyes on Jesus and maintain this eternal perspective we are held safely in the Savior's arms. Realizing this, perhaps it's time we all started writing those books we've wanted to write for so long!

The Lord bless you. Yours in Christ,

Pastor George.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE...

EVERY SUNDAY - 9:30 AM WORSHIP

10:45AM Coffee Hour

November 1 **All Saints Day**
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sermon: The Command to Stop Fearing the Future



November 8 **Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**
Sermon: Debi Jensen will be preaching

November 15 **Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**
Sermon: The Command to Forgive
Quilting, Etc.

November 22 **Reign of Christ Sunday**
Sermon: The Command to Be ready

Advent begins on Sunday morning, November 29, 2015. Pastor Kaden will begin a six part series of messages that morning on the theme: "Seasoning the Season with the Flavor of Christ". Isn't that what we all hope to do this Christmas? We want to season the season with the flavor of Christ. Come and join us as we devote ourselves to doing just that.

November 29 **First Sunday of Advent**
Sermon: "Seasoning our Christmas Greetings with the Flavor of Christ"

December 6 **Second Sunday of Advent**
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sermon: "Seasoning our Christmas Giving with the Flavor of Christ"

December 13 **Third Sunday of Advent**
Sermon: "Seasoning our Christmas Gatherings with the Flavor of Christ"
Quilting, Etc.

December 20 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
Sermon: "Seasoning our Christmas Glorifying with the Flavor of Christ"

December 24 **Christmas Eve**
Sermon: "Seasoning our Christmas Gift Giving with the Flavor of Christ"

December 27 **First Sunday After Christmas**
Sermon: "Seasoning our After-Glow of Christmas with the Flavor of Christ"



NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,



As you know, Homecoming was postponed due to threat of severe weather and was held the following Sunday. Sadly, many people already had other plans and were not able to attend.

Turnout aside the food was yummy and the fellowship was the best! The only thing that would make it better next year **WOULD BE TO SEE YOUR FACE!**

Laura Hogan
Consistory VP

PRAYER CONCERNS



Please pray for Jeanne Farano, Hayden James Morrow, Theresa Boscher, Mrs. Dorothy Whitson, Ernie Stephenson, Jr., Betty Borden, Hope Ker, Mary Ann Kerr, Bill Hogan as he recuperates from surgery, Charlie Van Curen and Jack Lambert.

NOTES FROM THE LOFT...

On November 22 (Christ the King Sunday), Ashley Koluda will be sharing the organ responsibilities with Ed Krogstad. Ashley was with us during two summer worship services.



During the season of Advent, the Brickettes will be joining the Chancel Choir for two Advent Anthems.



Chancel Choir rehearsals meet every Monday 6:00 PM in the Sanctuary. The Brickettes meet on Fridays at 4:20 PM. During the holidays there will be announcements about dates where the choir will ***not*** meet. *Be sure to keep your ears open.*

LITTLE BRICKS

Our schedule for Little Bricks is as follows:
Nov. 1st - Jillisa
Nov. 8th - Kay
Nov. 15 - Thomas



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Kaden will be taking his week of study, the week of November 2-November 8. Ms. Debi Jensen will be filling our pulpit on November 8th so please come out and offer your support.



The Marlboro Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will be held on at Monmouth Worship Center, 37 Vanderburg Rd., Marlboro at 7:30 PM. If you've attended this service in years past then you know it's always a blessing. Come, join us for worship that night as we offer thanks to Almighty God.

Please set aside a couple of hours on Saturday morning, December 5th at 9:30 a.m. to come and help decorate our sanctuary for Christmas. This is always a big job and we need volunteers to help. Your help is greatly appreciated, thank you.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 29th. As in years past we are in need of volunteers (individuals or families) to light an Advent candle and lead our Advent candle readings in worship on the four Sundays of Advent and on Christmas Eve. If you're willing to participate please call the Church office and let us know of your interest, thank you.



The Consistory and Administrative Committee are reminded that Dan Bavuso, the Churches Investment Advisor, will be here at 6:45 pm. on Thursday, December 12th to discuss our investments. The monthly consistory meeting will follow immediately after.



Quilting, Etc. meets each month at 1 PM at Volharden Hall on November 15th and December 13th. If you quilt, knit, crochet, craft of any kind or even if you don't, come share some fellowship with us! See dates on page 2.

Candlelight Service - a service of carols and candles at 7:30 PM! Bring the family for this happy time.



November 2015

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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|------------------------------------|------------------|---|----|--|-----------------------------|----|
| 1 Holy Communion | 2 Choir 6 PM | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 7 |
| 8 | 9 Choir 6 PM | 10 | 11 | 12 <i>Consistory</i> 7 PM | 13 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 14 |
| 15 <i>Quilting, Etc</i> 1 PM | 16 Choir 6 PM | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 21 |
| 22 | 23 Choir 6 PM | 24 <i>Interfaith Thanksgiving Svc. 7:30 PM</i> | 25 | 26  | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 NO Choir | | | | | |

December 2015



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----|----|--|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 5 <i>Church Decorating 9:30 AM</i> |
| 6 Holy Communion | 7 Choir 6 PM | 8 | 9 | 10 <i>Consistory 7 PM</i> | 11 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 12 |
| 13 <i>Quilting, ETC 1 PM</i> | 14 Choir 6 PM | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 Brickettes 4:20 PM | 19 |
| 20 | 21 Choir 6 PM | 22 | 23 | 24 <i>Candlelight Svc 7:30 PM</i> | 25  | 26 |
| 27 | 28 NO Choir | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |



What Christmas Is Really About

Frantic shoppers crowd the stores,
Buying up bargains by the score.
Do they know the meaning of Christmas?
It's difficult to tell for sure.

Christmas isn't a race to see
How many gifts that you can buy.
It's not about cooking a ham,
Or about baking pumpkin pie.



It isn't about hanging lights,
Or visiting Santa at the mall.
No it really isn't about
Any of those things at all.

It's about the birth of Jesus,
And his true divinity.
It's about the birth of the Savior,
Who came to redeem humanity.

So stop worrying about those sales,
And getting caught up in distractions
Let's focus on what's important,
And be responsible for our actions.

Jesus is the reason for the
season we hold so dear.
So let's keep the focus on God
As we celebrate Christmas this year.



Old Brick Reformed Church

P.O. Box 153

490 Route 520

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First Class

QUOTES OF THE MONTH.....

On Christlikeness

When asked by missionary E. Stanley Jones how Christianity could be more acceptable to India, Mahatma Ghandi replied: "I would suggest, first, that all of you Christians.... begin to live more like Jesus Christ."

Charles Spurgeon once said: "A Christian should be a striking likeness of Jesus Christ..... We should be pictures of Christ.... Oh! My brethren, there is nothing that can so advantage you, nothing can so prosper you, so assist you, so make you walk towards heaven rapidly, so keep your head upwards towards the sky, and your eyes radiant with glory, like the imitation of Jesus Christ."

Are you radiant with the glory of Christ?
How, in what ways, can you begin to foster such radiance?

Our Mission

We are the people of God committed to doing the work of Christ in our congregation, our community, and the world.

Our Vision

As we walk on our journey of faith together we will seek opportunities to share our resources, respond to need, and welcome growth to show God's love for all. We will do so by the giving of our gifts and talents for the glory of God.

Our Values

Perseverance, Support, Faith,
Sharing, Caring, Praying