

GOOD TIDINGS

The Newsletter of Brick Presbyterian Church

November 2011

Pastor Doug's Expression of Gratitude to the Faithful in Tough Times

"We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Thessalonians 1:2-4).

In these very difficult times, I give thanks to God for you and your faithful labor of love and your steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, just as the Apostle thanked God for the faithful in the church of Thessalonica. Why? Because in these challenging times you continue to have the compassion of Jesus Christ in your hearts, stretching to do what you can for those in need. You along with a recent Boy Scout Troop Food Drive have restocked our Deacon's Food Pantry at a critical time. You have extended yourselves providing eggs, food and water to the homeless working poor in "Tent City."

Our Youth Groups joined the CROP hunger walk on Oct. 16 to help feed the hungry, and they with their parents helped clear space for a tent in "Tent City." In addition, our Youth with your support have been raising funds to help brighten the Christmas Holiday for needful children in our community.

And I think about the people whose lives are touched for the better by our Missionary Mark Hare in Haiti – by your support of Habitat for Humanity, Caregivers of Central Jersey and Interfaith Hospitality Network.

In these days of overbooked personal calendars, many of you still make the worship of God a priority (fulfilling one of the Biblical commands regarding a part of the faithful life). I have noticed more of you getting involved in our common life as a congregation, serving on the Pictorial Directory Committee and on the Stewardship & Mission Committee. And, I have been witness to a number of you coming to the Church on Wednesday nights and Thursday mornings to study the Bible in an era when too many believers do not know what the Bible really says.

I give thanks to God for those who have labored with our Building Expansion Work which continues quietly behind the scenes tying up loose ends and punch list items 5 months after we dedicated the new building. What a steadfast group that is!

And, I am both impressed and inspired by the number of people I see day in and day out doing all sorts of things for our Lord, through this congregation, despite their personal burdens and health issues which few people know about.

As a former Army Chaplain, I am impressed by how many of you are donating items to show our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan that they are not forgotten by the Church or people back home.

I thank God for all those involved in our Church School Program, our Ministry of Music Programs, and many other committees. Your commitment and faithfulness is essential too. And so as I bow my head before I pray considering what I will do with my pledge/commitment card I think about each of you. As I sit before the Thanksgiving Table, I thank God both for the bounty on that table and those gathered there, but also for each of you. May God keep us bound together in the love of Jesus Christ – and inspired to carry out Christ's work on the earth. May God bless you in Christ's mission of love.



This year's Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at the Osbornville Baptist Church on Drum Point Road in Brick. The service will begin at 7:00 P.M. on November 20, 2011.

An Offering of non-perishable food will be collected at the service for Ocean County Hunger Relief for distribution through the Osbornville Baptist Church.

Reach Out and Thank a Veteran Sunday



It has been said that "freedom isn't free." It has also been said: "If you like your freedom, thank a vet." On **Sunday, November 13th** (the Sunday closest to Veteran's Day, Nov. 11th) we will pause for a moment at the beginning of our worship services to recognize those present who are veterans of each branch of the armed forces. We will also be lifting up prayers for those who have served and who are currently serving in the military.

It is the hope of your pastor and the Outreach Committee that you will invite any veterans you know who do not have a church home to join us in worship that Sunday so we may say thank you for their service.

Christmas Week Info from the Worship Committee



The flower donation envelopes will be in the pews on **Nov. 27, Dec. 4, and Dec. 11, 2011**. We use the donations to purchase the poinsettias used to decorate the Chancel for Christmas week. The names of donors will be in the bulletin on Christmas.

The **Christmas Eve Services will be held on December 24, 2011 at 7:00 PM and 9:00 PM**. Please come and enjoy a beautiful service ending in candle lighting for the worshippers.

Sunday Worship Services on **Christmas Day, December 25, 2011, and New Year's Day, January 1, 2012** will be held only at 10:00 AM. There will be no Sunday School classes those two days so that the families can enjoy the services together.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! The Annual Harvest Dinner will be held on **Sunday, November 13th**, 2011, immediately following the second service in our beautiful, spacious, new fellowship hall. This year, ticket prices will be reduced, as follows:

- For folks 12 and up, tickets are \$10,
- Children ages 6-11, \$5,
- Children ages 5 and under, free.

Tickets can be purchased in the narthex. Desserts and turkeys are welcome and wanted! All proceeds benefit the Scholarship Fund. Thank you.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
PART OF OUR TENT CITY
MINISTRY?
(We'd love to have you!)**



The Deacons' Tent City Ministry has been underway for approximately six months and it has clearly sparked the interest, action and concern of many in our church. A new committee is being formed to explore additional ways in which members and friends of our congregation can bring our ideas, talents and energy together in projects and activities which can truly assist our brothers and sisters in need. If you are interested in joining our committee, please contact **Jean** through the church office.

QUILTERS NEWS



The Quilters will hold their annual sale on **Sunday, November 27th** and **Sunday, December 4th** between services and after the 11 AM service in the lower lobby (Family Life Building). The proceeds this year will go to the Building Fund. In addition to small quilts, there will be the ever-popular crayon totes, Christmas stockings, and table runners. What a great way to do some Christmas shopping and benefit our church!

KNIT FOR KIDS

It's time to start knitting sweaters again. There is an ongoing need for these children's sweaters which are sent all over the world. The easy pattern is available in the narthex – front and back are the same and there is no setting in of sleeves! Over the years we have made and sent 433 sweaters. Let's make it 500! Check out www.knitforkids.org.

2011 Christmas Nursing Home Visit



"The Board of Deacons invites you to join us in the delivery of Christmas spirit to the residents of the Geraldine Thompson Care Center. The date is **Saturday, December 10, 2011**. We will leave from the Church parking lot at 130PM with the program at Geraldine Thompson starting at 230PM sharp. For more information, please contact George through our church office. This is a wonderful way to share the joy of our Savior's birth with those in our community!"

God Bless!

MEMORIAL BRICKS UPDATE

For those of you who are interested in the Memorial Bricks fundraiser, here's an update. We have begun the installation process in the Memorial Garden; the Property, Building and Grounds Committee has been busy laying out a traditional walkway for our bricks. Now with the walkway planned, in the next few weeks we will begin our second sale of bricks. Keep an eye out for the order forms and instructions on the website and in the Narthex at the church.



Did You Know?



...that one of the ministries that we Brick Presbyterians acknowledge is Caregiver Sunday? While some churches have health ministries, parish nurses, or Stephen ministers (which are trained, caring people listening and providing support to those in need) and many just have loving people who check on those in need.

Occasionally forgotten people of our congregations are caregivers. There are probably days when they could use a break to run an errand or to have a free morning. Could you or other church members offer these breaks? Some churches offer respite care for a day, while some organizations offer respite care for several days while a person takes a trip or has time for renewal. Jesus was the supreme caregiver and even he made time for respite by renewing energy in solitude, with close friends, with prayer, and reconnecting with god who is the source of all energy, love and care.

Sunday, November 13 is Caregiver Sunday. We acknowledge all who care in the most difficult times, and we lift them up in prayer.

Remember the words of Jesus, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28.

*Excerpted, by your Mission Committee
from the "Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study"*

Youth Group News



October turned out to be a busy month for the Junior and Senior High Youth Groups with mission work. They managed to raise close to \$300.00 at the bake sale for needy family Christmas Gifts. A big thank you to the congregation for making that possible.

The kids, along with parents' support, went out to Tent City in Lakewood to clear an area for a very large community tent to be erected, which they had the privilege of taking part in. What an awesome site that was. Please view some pictures on the church website.

The Youth Group then managed to collect personal pledges along with generous donations from the congregation and took part in the Crop Walk for Hunger Relief. Some of the proceeds from this walk assist in hunger relief in our own area. What an amazing bunch of youth!

After all that mission work we gave them a break and took them to a 6-acre corn maze, just for fun!

Important dates for November:

November 6th - Bake Sale

November 12th - Harvest Dinner Set-up 3:00pm

November 13th - Serve food at Harvest Dinner 12:00 (weather permitting, volleyball game outside following dinner)

November 20th - Fall Cleanup & ice cream party 12:00 meet in church parking lot

The leaders would really like to express their gratitude to the kids, parents and congregation for all your support in making the Youth Group Program such a wonderful experience of worship, fellowship, mission and fun; it could not work without everyone of you.

"No one can do everything but everyone can do something."

FUNDRAISING NEWS



The fundraising committee would like to thank all who supported our sixth restaurant fundraiser, held at Simko's Grill on September 21st and 22nd.

Looking ahead to November we would like to encourage the congregation to support the annual **Harvest Dinner**. This is a wonderful opportunity to help support our Scholarship Fund as well as be part of a great fellowship event. The Harvest Dinner is sponsored by the Christian Ed. committee and will be our first held in the new fellowship hall. Because of this, we will be able to sell many more tickets than we have in the past. Wouldn't be wonderful to sell 250 tickets and fill the room to capacity? As in the past, we are looking for donations of turkeys and desserts to help make this a true fellowship event. **All proceeds support our Scholarship Fund.** Please look for our table in the Narthex to purchase tickets and sign up for donations of turkeys and desserts.



Flu Fighting Foods

It is important to do all you can to arm yourself against seasonal cold and flu viruses. Fortunately, Mother Nature provides an arsenal of immune boosting foods. During this flu season, get your all the sleep you need, wash your hands more frequently, and eat a variety of the following foods.

- **Vitamin C** – when it comes to fighting colds & flu, vitamin C is a powerhouse antioxidant. It boosts immune function by protecting cells from environment damage & helping to regenerate other antioxidants in the body when they are depleted. Sources include hot chili peppers, bell peppers, kale, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, & oranges.
- **Vitamin E** – Vit. E is crucial in maintaining the immune system. It enhances activity of T- cells, the white cells involved in protecting us from viral, fungal and other infections. Sources include sunflower seeds, almonds, hazelnuts, peanut butter, spinach, & greens.
- **Carotenoids** – Beta-carotene is the most well know of this class of nutrients that have a variety of health benefits, one of which is enhancing or regulating immune function. Sources include Sweet potatoes, carrots, kale, pumpkin, winter squash & spinach.
- **Probiotics** -are sometimes referred to as "the good bugs." They are beneficial bacteria that live in all healthy digestive systems. They help guard against attacks from microorganisms and may improve immune function in healthy adults by increasing the percentage of different types of immune cells. Sources include yogurt, kefir, buttermilk & miso soup.
- **Vitamin D** – this is an immune system modulator which means it regulates immune response so that your body doesn't over or under react to pathogens. Cod Liver oil, canned salmon (wild caught), pickled herring, mackerel, raw oysters, sardines, canned tuna (in oil), halibut, cod, milk fortified with Vit. D, yogurt, eggs, beef liver & cheese.
- **Garlic** – It's the sulfur in garlic that gives this vegetable its famed status as a powerful immunity protector. It also enhances the activity of macrophages, immune cells that engulf & destroy invading organisms. Remember to crush garlic & let it sit for 10 minutes before cooking with it to get the full release & cultivation of the beneficial chemicals.
- **Bioflavonoids** – act like antioxidants & taste so good! Dark chocolate, red wine, apples, strawberries, green or black tea.
- **Selenium** – helps white blood cells to respond to attacks on the immune system and has well studied anti-cancer properties. Foods include brazil nuts, oysters, mussels & tuna.
- **Mushrooms** – certain compounds in mushrooms have been studied in laboratory settings and have been shown to have immune-system-modulating effects.
- **Zinc** – it plays a central role in the development and functioning of immune cells. It is also an antioxidant with the ability to protect cells from environmental damage. Foods include oysters, calf's liver, spinach, cremini mushrooms, chuck steak & poppy seeds.

This information was obtained from the web site www.dLife.com.



We are excited to announce that Olan Mills will be helping us to create a new pictorial directory of our church family. The directory will help us to connect names with faces. It will be a useful tool for new people as they begin to worship here. It will be an ideal outreach tool and will capture our church in words and pictures.

Please participate! We want our album to be as complete as possible. Remember, to get a book, you need to participate. You can sign up for your portrait appointment in church or online. Online sign ups are available at www.brickpresby.com. Follow the easy instructions for Olan Mills appointments. Please sign up as soon as possible to get the appointment time that best suits your schedule.

- Every participating family/household that selects a pose for the directory will receive a free directory and a \$25 Portrait Gift Certificate.
- You will come to the church only once for photography and for portrait viewing.
- This program is available at no cost to the church.
- You will have the opportunity to order additional portraits during your scheduled time, if you wish.
- If you do wish to purchase additional portraits, they come with Olan Mills' 100% Satisfaction Guarantee.
- Whether you decide to dress formal or casual, you will want to make the most of this opportunity.

The scheduled dates for photography and portrait viewing are:

November 16, 2011 - Wednesday – 2:00 p.m. – 9:20 p.m.

November 17, 2011 - Thursday – 2:00 p.m. – 9:20 p.m.

November 18, 2011 – Friday – 2:00 p.m. – 9:20 p.m.

November 19, 2011 – Saturday - 9:30 a.m. – 4:50 p.m.

November 25, 2011 – Friday – 12:00 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.

November 26, 2011 – Saturday – 9:30 a.m. – 4:50 p.m.

We want everyone to participate. Our book will not be complete without **you!**



September 26, 2011 A.D.

Dear Members and Friends of Brick Presbyterian Church:

I cannot begin to tell you just how very surprised, honored and humbled I felt by the surprise party you gave celebrating my 20 years of ministry with you. I was truly clueless about what was happening until I entered the room and saw so many of you there. Your show of love, support and encouragement truly blessed me.

I couldn't have asked for a better day, as we received 5 people into membership that morning, baptized another child into the household of faith, and had a meaningful inauguration of the Rite of Health and Wholeness in our worship services.

Your cards, the sharing of memories, the jokes about Mustang cars and the Buffalo Bills and folic impairment were wonderful.

I especially want to thank the Fellowship Committee for all their hard work that day in the kitchen and with the clean-up that followed the party; Tim Towlen for the wonderful balloon decorations; and all who contributed food and other things that made this a truly special day.

The Apostle once wrote in 2 Timothy 1:3; "I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers." As those words were sent out long ago, so I too, thank God, whom I serve for each of you. You are indeed a very special congregation through whom the Lord is doing some very special things in our community and beyond. I look forward to more good things to come as we **continue to serve the Lord together.**

May the Lord bless each and every one of you, even as I count you a blessing in my life.

Most appreciatively yours in Christ's service,
Doug Chase

P.S. And you all were so kind as to make sure my Buffalo Bills won their third straight game that evening too! 😊
