

Between the Bricks

March / April 2017

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Isaiah 53: 7b "...like a lamb that is led to the slaughter and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth".

In Dr. Luke's description of the crucifixion, (Luke chapter 23), Luke presents a stark contrast between Jesus' response to the suffering of the cross with the two thieves who were also crucified with Him that day. Initially, both thieves rail against Jesus, deriding and mocking Him, but Jesus does not express any words of anger in retaliation. In fact, throughout the entire ordeal, even to his bitter and shameful death on the cross, He practiced what he preached, when he said, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you".

The two thieves would do anything; say anything, in an attempt to escape this terrible fate, but Jesus remains silent, obediently enduring the suffering without bitterness. Why? Because the cross was in the Father's plan. Jesus' death would atone for our sins. It was love that led Him there. Peter Marshall, a former Chaplain of the United States Congress, describes what occurred so well. "He (Jesus) might have compromised with the priests, made a bargain with Caiaphas, talked things over with Pilate. He might have made His kingdom political instead of spiritual. He might have chosen the expedient rather than the right. As He himself reminded Peter, He might have called upon twelve legions of angels to rescue Him and show His great power. He might have withstood the plotting and devices of wicked men. Yes, He might have saved Himself. He had the power, but then He would never have been our Savior. If any man will save others, in any salvation whatsoever, the mandate he must obey, the stern condition he must fulfill, is that he cannot save himself. Such is the paradox of salvation! "The acorn cannot save itself if it is to bud a tree. The soldier cannot save himself if he is to save the country. Nor can the Shepherd save Himself if He would save His sheep".

Christ is the Good Shepherd and the Good Shepherd lays down His life for His sheep. For to love is never to think of one's self but to give one's self away in love for the one loved. Jesus loved us and "gave himself for us".

In the Holy season we are entering, leading up to Good Friday and our celebration of the Resurrection of Christ, may we ponder again the great mystery of the cross and our redemption. On Calvary's tree Jesus willingly sacrificed His life for sinners like you and me that we might know of God's love for us, find forgiveness, and enjoy eternal life.

"Like a lamb led to slaughter...so he did not open his mouth", that those who believe might open their mouths to sing His Praise. Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kaden

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
Wednesday and Thursday
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Pastor

Reverend George Kaden
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OLD BRICK REFORMED CHURCH

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<http://www.oldbrickchurch.org>

WORSHIP SCHEDULE...

EVERY SUNDAY - 9:30 AM WORSHIP

10:45AM Coffee Hour

March

April

March 1 **Ash Wednesday - 7:30 pm Service**
(Old Brick, Freehold Reformed & Colts Neck Churches)

March 5 **First Sunday in Lent**
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sermon: The Meek



March 12 **Second Sunday in Lent**
Sermon: Those Who Hunger for Righteousness

March 19 **Third Sunday in Lent**
Sermon: The Merciful
Quilting Etc. 1-3p

March 26 **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
Sermon: The Peacemakers

April 2 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Sermon: We are Salt and Light

April 9 **Palm Sunday**
Sermon: I Did It God's Way



April 13 **Maundy Thursday**
Sermon: The Marks of Discipleship

April 14 **Good Friday**
Sermon: The Night They Arrested God

April 16 **Easter Sunday**
Sermon: Good News from the Graveyard



April 23 **Second Sunday of Easter**
Sermon: Till Daybreak
"Haute Dog" Cookoff ...Coffee Hour

April 30 **Third Sunday of Easter**
Sermon: Why Me, Lord?

NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone!

As I write this we are recovering from the February 9th snow storm. While it wasn't as bad as predicted, it was bad enough and COLD. Hope all got by with no problems! Fortunately, when you receive this issue of Between The Bricks, February will be behind us and Spring will be just ahead. It will soon be time to rakes out the flower beds and to watch for the crocus as they pop up.

This winter has been a time of loss for Old Brick. The two most recent losses to our church family were Mary Anne Ker and Betty Borden. Keep their families in your prayers as they adjust to life without their loved ones.

While no one can ever fill a void left by the loss of a loved one, I hope you will be able to come to Church and join with us in worship. Invite a neighbor or friend to join you. We welcome everyone at Old Brick.

Wishing each of you a season of growth and love,
Laura Hogan



LENT AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service - March 1st, 7:30 pm

Please join us for our Annual Ecumenical Ash Wednesday Service, Wednesday evening, March 1st at 7:30 pm at *Old Brick Church*. Our friends from the *Reformed Church of Freehold* and *Colts Neck Reformed Church* will join us in worship that night.



Celebrate Holy Week - Worship Service

Palm Sunday: Sunday, April 9 at 9:30 am.

Maundy Thursday: Thursday, April 13 at 7: 30 pm in Volharden Hall.

Good Friday: Friday, April 14th at 12 at noon in the sanctuary.

Easter Sunday: Sunday, April 16th at 9:30 am in the sanctuary.



Please Join Old Brick Church for our special Ash Wednesday & Holy Week Services.
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

CONSISTORY NOTES

Meeting Dates:

March: Thursday, March 9th (7pm) & **April:** Thursday, April (TBD)

Congratulations to our church members on their elected offices to the Consistory:

- Laura Hogan was installed as an Elder.
- Linda Millward was ordained and installed as an Elder.
- Barbara Tilton was ordained and installed as a Deacon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Congregational Meeting

Following worship on Sunday, April 2nd, we will have a brief meeting to discuss a few important matters related to our church life. The meeting will take approximately 15 minutes. Please join us.

Easter Flower Dedications



Easter Flowers will fill our Sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Beautiful tulips and lilies will be available as memorials, or to honor loved ones. Order forms are available in church bulletins, or call the church office 732-946-8860. Cost \$15.00 each



CHURCH LIFE

Scout Sunday

Old Brick celebrated it's annual "Scout Sunday" at worship on Feb 5th. Troop #86 Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and leaders participated in our worship service and then hosted a breakfast for everyone in Volharden Hall.



Our church family is proud to sponsor Troop 86 and appreciates all their help and support throughout the year.



Love Sunday



On Sunday, February 12th, we celebrated our annual tradition of *Love Sunday!* Sharon Mahoney provided us with a historical description and a delicious luncheon following our worship time.

We extend our gratitude to Sharon and those who helped her in the kitchen.

Quilting, Etc.

Our Quilting, Etc., group meets the third Sunday of each month from 1-3p. Enjoy some crafting and socializing and fun. No experience needed.

All are welcome...our next meeting is March 19th



Coffee Hour

You are invited to join us following Sunday worship, in Volharden Hall for coffee and fellowship. Sign up sheets are available if you wish to bring treats to share.



EVENTS



“Haute Dog Day” * Sunday, April 23rd Old Brick Church “Haute Dog Day” Cookoff.....



Will be held during Coffee Hour at Volharden Hall on Sunday, April 23rd. Come for a sample and call it lunch. We will provide the “dogs” and basic mustard, catsup and relish. But....we want to look our **“best”** so **we are looking for your entries** of additional toppings to **“dress up”** the dog and make this a **“classy”** act. (Just a 2 qt. crock pot or medium bowl full). The top “Haute” choices will be on the *Trash & Treasure Sale* menu .

If you can imagine the possibilities (tasty, but need not be fancy) and can help out to **“put on the dog”**, please let *Dorothy Wells* or *Sharon Mahoney* know...or call the church office 732-946-8860.

TRASH & TREASURE 2017



Just in case you have not heard.....**Trash & Treasure 2017** is underway.
Yes, it really is DÉJÀ VU all over again.



Donations are being collected upstairs in Volharden Hall, prices being set, advertising being planned, menus being selected and volunteers being sought. Believe it or not, **Sept. 16th, 2017** will be here before we know it!

Bring in your donations! Don't wait until Fall...we have storage room. By way of strategy, remember to mention our Event to family, friends and neighbors. They may need to clear the clutter, or know else somebody who does. Whether they donate, rent a space, or just attend, we will appreciate their participation.

NOTES FROM THE LOFT



On Sunday, January 29th, we had the pleasure of hearing Kammi and Anna Haeusser debut on our Schantz pipe organ. Anna played the prelude and Kammi the postlude during worship. Pastor George gave trophies for their wonderful musical debut!

Our chancel choir is busy preparing for Lent and Holy Week.

**Chancel Choir rehearsals are Monday evenings at 6pm.
All Are Welcome!**



WE REMEMBER...IN THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

We are saddened by the recent loss of two special Old Brick Members and extend our sympathy and prayers to these families:

Mary Anne Ker (December 7th, 1921 - January 29th, 2017)

Betty R. Borden (October 20th, 1931 - February 8th, 2017)

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Ash Wednesday Service 7:30p  LENT Begins	2	3	4
5 Worship 9:30a Communion Eagle Scout Ceremony Church/Hall (1p-7p)	6 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	7 C. Scouts (7p)	8 Woodworkers (7p)	9 Consistory Mtg (7p)	10 C. Scouts (7p)	11
12 Worship 9:30a 	13 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	14	15 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	16	17	18
19 Worship 9:30a Quilting Etc. (1-3p)	20 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	21 C. Scouts (7p)	22 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	23	24 C. Scouts (7p)	25
26 Worship 9:30a Eagle Scout Ceremony Church/Hall (1p-7p)	27 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	28 Aspen Grp (6:30-8:30p)	29 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	30		

April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 Worship 9:30 a Communion	3 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	4 C. Scouts (7p)	5 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	6	7 C. Scouts (7p)	8
9 Worship 9:30 a Holy Week Palm Sunday	10 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	11	12 Woodworkers (7p)	13 Maundy Thurs. Service (7:30p)	14 Good Friday Service (12 noon)	15
16 Worship 9:30 a Easter Sunday 	17 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p)	18 C. Scouts (7p)	19 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	20	21	22
23 Worship 9:30 a "Haute Dog" Cookoff / Coffee Hour	24 Chancel Choir rehearsal (6p) B. Scouts (7p)	25 Aspen Grp (6:30-8:30p)	26 ACA Grp (7-8:30p)	27	28 C. Scouts (7p)	29
30 Worship 9:30 a						

Old Brick Reformed Church

P.O. Box 153

490 Route 520

Marlboro, NJ 07746

First Class

QUOTES OF THE MONTH.....

"Only one act of pure love, unsullied by any taint of ulterior motive, has ever been performed in the history of the world, namely the self-giving of God in Christ on the cross for undeserving sinners"

John Stott

"I saw that just as Christian came up to the Cross, his burden loosed from his shoulders and fell off his back and landed in the sepulcher. Then was Christian glad and lightsome and said with a merry heart, "He hath given me rest by His sorrows, and life by His death".

John Bunyan, in Pilgrim's Progress

"I gave My life for thee, My precious blood I shed, That thou might'st ransomed be, And quickened from the dead. I gave, I gave my life for thee; What hast thou given for Me?"

Hymn-writer, Francis Ridley Havergal

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