



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
pastor@oldbrickchurch.org

Director of Music

Edward L. Krogstad
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Administrator

Diane Randolph
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OLD BRICK REFORMED CHURCH

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Between the Bricks

March-April 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Mark 14: 50 "And they all, (the disciples that is), forsook him and fled."

Only a short time before leaving the Upper Room and heading to the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus would be arrested, the Lord told the disciples, "All of you will fall away on account of me this night." His statement shocked the disciples, and Peter, speaking for all of them, reacts, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." Mark adds, "And they all, (meaning all the disciples), said the same."

A short while later they leave the Upper Room, make their way to Gethsemane where the disciples fall asleep while Jesus prays. Judas arrives accompanied by Temple guards who proceed to arrest Jesus. It's a terrifying moment for the disciples but instead of living up to their confident claim in the Upper Room, Mark tells us in Mark 14: 50, "And they all forsook him and fled". Jesus prediction was true!

That statement should cause us to gasp for breath. In our own faith experience, has there not been moments in your life and mine when we made boastful claims about our faith only to discover later, when the pressures on, that we too cowardly denied Jesus as the disciples did in the Garden that night?

Dr. Timothy Beougher thought about the disciples reaction here and said, "They should have been singing Onward Christian Soldiers," but instead they were reflecting this parody:

Backward Christian soldiers, fleeing from the fight; with the Cross of Jesus clearly out of sight. Christ, our rightful Master, stands against the foe, but forward into battle, we're much too scared to go. Like a mighty tortoise moves the church of God; brothers we are treading, where we've always trod. We are much divided, many bodies we; having different doctrines, not much clarity. Crowns and thrones may perish, kingdoms rise and wane, but the Church of Jesus, hidden does remain. Gates of hell should never, against that Church prevail; we have Christ's own promise, but think that it will fail. Sit here, then, ye people, join our powerless throng; blend with ours, your voices, in a feeble song. Blessings, ease, and comfort, ask from Christ the King, with our faithless thinking, we won't do a thing.

Dr. Beougher's parody on the Church is harsh and difficult to read, isn't it? He does, however, face us with an important question as we enter the Lenten season moving us toward Good Friday, "Am I living my life courageously for Christ, or, when the pressure's on to stand up and speak for him, do I run scared?" Oh, may we never run from the cross, rather, let us embrace it, it's a cross Christ has called us to bear; it's a cross that leads to glory.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kaden

WORSHIP SCHEDULE...

March

Every Sunday - 9:30 AM
10:45 AM Family Coffee Hour

April

March 3 **Transfiguration Sunday & Communion**

Sermon: "An Astonishing Revelation"

Sunday School

March 6

ASH Wednesday - Union Service at Old Brick Church at 7:30p

Rev. David Groeneveld of the Freehold Reformed Church will be preaching.



March 10

First Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "He Provides What Our Souls Crave"



March 17

Second Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Get The Word Out"

Sunday School

March 24

Third Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "It's Time To Move Forward"

March 31

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "He Opens Our Spiritual Eyes"

Sunday School

April 7

Fifth Sunday In Lent

Sermon: "Choosing the Good Portion"

Sunday School

HOLY WEEK

April 14:

Palm Sunday, Worship 9:30a

Sermon: "Do You Believe This?"

April 18:

Maundy Thursday: 6:30p Soup Supper, 7:15p Worship in Volharden Hall.

Sermon: "Who Is In Charge Here?"

April 19:

Good Friday, Worship: 12 noon.

Sermon: "Can You See Yourself In This Picture?"

April 21:

Easter Sunday, Worship 9:30a

Sermon: "The Lamb Has Conquered!"

Sunday School



April 28

Second Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "We Can Live In Hope"

NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone,

For those of you who may not know me, my name is Thomas Bynoe, and I am the new Vice President of Consistory. I want to first extend my gratitude to Laura Hogan for all her great service and hard work which she has done, and continues to do, for the Consistory and Old Brick Reformed Church. I intend to rely on her sage wisdom and advice to help learn the ropes in this new position for me.

I must admit, when Pastor George and the Consistory asked me to consider undertaking the role of Vice President, I felt woefully unprepared. It wasn't until I read a passage from Exodus Chapter 18 that I truly felt like I could be of service.

Exodus Chapter 18

Before Moses had appointed judges to help him administer God's Law, he did it all himself. Finally, his father-in-law saw him in this position and counseled him that he should add judges to help lift this heavy burden from his shoulders. Moses obeyed and the whole of Israel prospered for it.

What I took from this passage was that we all need help. We're not supposed to do this alone. We need each other. As long as I can rely on my fellow Consistory members, Pastor George, and the Old Brick Congregation for guidance and support, I will be able to fulfill my service to the Church. Further, as long as we rely on each other, in matters great and small, concerning the church, I believe we can prevail in our mission and ministry.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the *Moore* family, the *Voorhees* family, and the *Rugnetta* family during this period of sadness and loss. You're not alone in your grief. But more importantly, The Lord sees you. May he bless you with some comfort during this difficult time.

As we draw nearer to Easter and the winter begins to subside, let us all rejoice in the coming of the Holy Season!



Thomas Bynoe, Consistory VP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Sympathy: In the month of January, three families of Old Brick Church experienced the sadness over the death of loved ones. We extend our sincere sympathies to the families of *Louise Moore*, *Florence Voorhees*, and *Elissa Jones* (Danielle Rugnetta's mother) whose earthly journeys have ended and whose heavenly rewards have begun. Please remember these three families in your prayers.

Praying for friends
to comfort you,
faith to uphold you,
and loving memories
to heal your heart.

Special Recognition: Last year the Consistory began a new, annual tradition to recognize individuals who have made a unique contribution to the ministry of Old Brick Church. Last year, we recognized *Dorothy & Charlie Van Curen*; this fall the consistory decided to recognize two individuals whose lives have also meant so much to Old Brick Church, *Florence Bennett* and *Florence Voorhees*.



We scheduled our *annual congregational meeting* on January 27th to recognize these two dear women. It was wonderful recognizing *Florence Bennett* in worship that morning and it was a surprise for Florence to have many family members present to celebrate this "surprise" recognition for her. Congratulations Florence. Unfortunately, however, when the consistory set the date of January 27, 2019, little did we know that *Florence Voorhees* would become seriously ill, an illness that would cause her death on January 21, 2019. During Florence's funeral service on Saturday, January 25, we posthumously recognized her valued place in the hearts of the Old Brick Church family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS...



Old Brick New Members: We welcome *Kirsten and Jay Tilton* and son, *Haakon* into membership. Kirsten and Jay were received into membership on Reaffirmation of Faith. Kirsten is a school counselor in Old Bridge, and Jay works in sales. Haakon is their first child and is 4 months old. We so delighted to welcome the Tilton's into membership.

Congregational Annual Meeting: Was held on Sunday, January 27th following worship. While many items related to the Churches ministry were discussed, we want to note that *Mr. Thomas Bynoe* was elected to serve a three year term as an Elder and *Ms. Barbara Tilton* was re-elected to serve a second term as a Deacon. Thomas will also serve as the Consistory's Vice President this year.

Thomas replaces *Ms. Laura Hogan* on Consistory. Laura served on the Church Consistory and as Vice President for six years until her term expired in January. We thank Laura for her faithful service and wish her some well deserved "down time" after her years of devoted service. Thank you Laura and may God continue to bless you.



Ash Wednesday at Old Brick Church: Ash Wednesday is on March 6th and we invite you to join us for worship as Old Brick hosts our *Ecumenical Ash Wednesday* service this year. We will be joined by members of the *Morganville United Methodist Church and the Reformed Church of Freehold*

The service begins at 7:30 pm. We hope you'll join us for worship that night.

No Estas Solo (You Are Not Alone): Old Brick continues to be engaged in an interfaith ministry (a ministry our congregation started) at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in the Pediatric departments called: *No Estas Solo*, which means in English, *You Are Not Alone*.



This wonderful mission provides assistance to poor families with seriously ill children that are in the Pediatric or Neo-natal units at Jersey Shore Hospital. The group consists of 20 representatives from different congregations, and we have three purposes: *first and foremost, to honor God, second, to provide assistance to needy families with children in the Pediatric units, who are referred to us from the Pediatric Social Workers and, third, to provide support to the Pediatric and Neo-natal staff at the Hospital.*

We've helped 30 needy families through your contributions of: diapers, baby wipes, Enfamil, car seats and other things, as well as your generous financial gifts. We hope you continue to support the work of "No Estas Solo" and, if you want take a more active role in this ministry, please speak to Pastor Kaden. Contributions can be sent to the Church designated for "No Estas Solo" or, placed in the collection jars in Volharden Hall. Donations of diapers, car seats and other items can be left under the coat rack at the front door of Volharden Hall. We appreciate your generosity which helps these families so much. Thank you!



Easter Flowers: Will decorate the Sanctuary for Easter in remembrance or honor of loved ones.

Those names will be listed in a custom insert in the Easter Sunday bulletin. If you wish to dedicate one or more *Easter Lily or tulip plants* (\$15.00 each), please fill out the forms in Sunday bulletins or call/email the church office: 732-946-8860 / secretary@oldbrickchurch.org.



MEETINGS:

The Consistory will meet on Thurs., March 14 at 7pm.

The Quarterly Administrative & Consistory Meeting is Thurs., April 11 at 6:45pm.



Remember The Three "P's"

"PRAY" for the ministry of Old Brick Church every day. **PRESENCE**", make attending worship a priority in your life, and **"PARTICIPATE"** in Old Brick Church's ministry by investing your time, talents, and treasures in helping us to grow Old Brick Church.

CHURCH LIFE AND EVENTS...

Love Sunday: We celebrated our annual, almost 50 year tradition of, "Love Sunday" at Old Brick on Sunday, Feb. 3rd. That morning *Sharon Mahoney* shared remarks about the history of "Love Sunday", the choir shared a special anthem on the theme of love and we also were delighted to welcome new members into our Church family, *Kirsten and Jay Tilton* and their son *Haakon*.

Following worship we were treated to a wonderful luncheon in Volharden Hall. We extend our thanks to *Sharon Mahoney* and her many helpers who prepared the luncheon for us.



Scout Sunday: Was on February 10th at Old Brick Church. Scouts and their parents representing the Cub and Boy Scout Troop 86 were present during our worship hour and, following worship, the Troop provided the congregation with a lovely luncheon. We're privileged to serve as the Charter Organization for Troop 86.



Good News: On Sunday, February 3rd, a "normal" Sunday at Old Brick, (aside from welcoming the Tilton family into membership), there wasn't any "special activity" that attracted visitors such as *Scout Sunday* or the *special recognitions* we held for *Florence Bennett* and *Florence Voorhees*, we had **54** people in worship, that's right **54!** It was a Sunday school morning and many parents came with children as well as many others. It was wonderful! How encouraging and uplifting worship is for us all, when

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

Old Brick will host joint Choirs on two special occasions this winter and spring!

On **Ash Wednesday**, we will join forces with the *Morganville United Methodist Church* and *Freehold Reformed Church* Choirs. On **Good Friday**, the *Morganville United Methodist Church* will join us at Old Brick.

Choir rehearsals are on Thursdays at 6pm in the Sanctuary. New choir members are always welcome to join us!

Edward Krogstad, Music Director

HOLY WEEK ACTIVITIES



April 14, Palm Sunday

9:30 am. worship as we remember our Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

April 18, Maundy Thursday

6:30 pm. Soup Supper followed by worship at 7:15 pm in Volharden Hall. The Lord's Supper will be celebrated.

April 19, Good Friday

12 noon worship in the Sanctuary - remembering our Lord's death on the cross.

April 21, Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m. worship as we celebrate our Lord's resurrection!

**Come and join us
for worship!**

March 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

					1	2
3 Worship / Holy Communion 9:30a Sunday School	4 B. Scouts (7p)	5 C. Scouts (6p)	 Union Service at Old Brick 7:30p	7 Choir (6p)	8 Aspen Social (6p)	9
10 Worship 9:30a	11	12	13 W. Workers (6p)	14 Consistory Mtg (7p) No Choir	15	16
17 Worship 9:30a Sunday School	18 B. Scouts (7p)	19 C. Scouts (6p)	20 C. Scouts (6p)	21 Choir (6p)	22 C. Scouts (6p)	23
24 Worship 9:30a	25 B. Scouts (7p)	26 Aspen Grp (6p)	27 C. Scouts (6p)	28	29	30
31 Worship 9:30a Sunday School						

April 2019



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1 B. Scouts (7p)	2 C. Scouts (6p)	3 C. Scouts (6p)	4 Choir (6p)	5	6
7 Worship 9:30a Sunday School	8 B. Scouts (7p)	9	10 W. Workers (6p)	11 Qtrly Admin/ Consistory Mtg (6:45p) Choir (6p)	12 Aspen social (6p)	13
14 Worship 9:30a 	15  B. Scouts (7p)	16 C. Scouts (6p)	17	18  Maundy Thurs. Service 6:30p	19 Good Friday Service 12 Noon	20
21 EASTER Worship 9:30a Sunday School 	22 B. Scouts (7p)	23 Aspen (6p)	24 C. Scouts (6p)	25 Choir (6p)	26	27
28 Worship 9:30a	29 B. Scouts (7p)	30				

Old Brick Reformed Church

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First Class

Quotes.....on Heaven

“Jesus Christ stands absolutely alone in history; in teaching, in example, in character, an exception, a marvel, and He is Himself the evidence of Christianity”

- A.T. Pierson

“Jesus is God spelling Himself out in language that man can understand”.

- S.D. Gordon

“No other God have I but Thee; born in a manger, died on a tree”.

- Martin Luther

“Christ is the central figure in biblical revelation. The cross is the central factor in biblical revelation”.

- Dan DeHaan

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