



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  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Wednesday  
9:00 am - 1:30 pm  
Friday  
9:00 am - 1:30 pm

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# Between the Bricks

Spring 2024

## MESSAGE FROM THE VISITING PASTOR

Beware of the Ides of March!

The Ides of March became notorious as the date of the assassination of Julius Caesar. It has been referred to as the turning point of Roman History. Prior to Julius Caesar's assassination, March 15th was the deadline for settling debts in Rome. March 15th was also marked by several religious observances as well as being tax day in Rome.

In pre-Christian Rome, the Ides of March was an important religious date and was celebrated as a day to honor the god, Jupiter. This day was part of a larger tradition in which the middle, or Ides, of each month, was dedicated to the worship of Jupiter.

Various celebrations were held, which often included the sacrifice of a sheep. These rituals were seen as a way to ensure the favor of Jupiter, who was considered the king of the gods and the protector of Rome. The religious significance of the Ides of March, therefore, was an important part of Roman culture and tradition.

Today, March 15th has no religious significance but it is known for being Red Nose Day, National Shoe the World Day, World Contact Day, World Sleep Day, True Confessions Day and lots more. My favorite is Everything You Think Is Wrong Day.

Therefore March 15th should be a day where decision-making should be avoided, as your thoughts are wrong. There is one exception. I don't care what day of the year it is, It is never wrong to: **Trust in the Lord with all your heart and learn not on your own understanding.**  
**Prov. 3:5**

The sacrificing of sheep was a practice of many religions in an effort to please their deity. The Israelites sacrificed a lamb and marked the doorpost with its blood so that the angel of death would pass over their homes and they would be saved.

Good Friday is notorious as the date of the crucifixion of Jesus. Jesus is our sacrificial lamb, by the shedding of his blood He takes away our sins and restores our relationship with God. Good Friday is the day when our debt of sinning was settled.

Easter, the day celebrating the Jesus' resurrection has been referred to as the turning point of human history. His resurrection is a sign and promise to all who believe in Him that when we die we will be raised to a new eternal life in God kingdom.

## MESSAGE FROM THE VISITING PASTOR ... CONTINUED

As you go through life, Beware! Beware of false gods, false teaching, of seeking to live life without God. Every day should be the day that we honor the King of Kings, Jesus. Live each and every day of your life knowing it is never wrong to:

**Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

**Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.**  
**Philippians 4: 4-9**

Godspeed  
Pastor Rich

## UPCOMING PULPIT FILL

March 3 - Yong Bok Kim	March 31 - Richard H. Weyer
March 10 - Ron Cadmus	April 7 - Ben Rivera
March 17 - Richard H. Weyer	April 14 - Ben Rivera
March 24 - Richard H. Weyer	April 21 - Richard H. Weyer
March 28 - Ron Cadmus	April 28 - Richard H. Weyer
Soup at 6:30PM, Service @7PM	May 5 - Richard H. Weyer

## HEADSTONE CLEANING

We will continue our HEADSTONE CLEANING project during the first week of June since many of our headstones still need a freshening up. Cleaning materials will be available so all we need is volunteers. Bring your snack or lunch, come in your work clothes and rubber gloves, and we will make it a fun work event. Date and details will follow. Hope to see you there.

## WELCOME VISITING PASTOR

Old Brick Reformed Church would like to welcome Visiting Pastor Ben Rivera. We would invite and encourage the congregation to hear his music and services on April 7, April 14, May 19 and May 26th.

## PIECES OF THE PAST

As we sit in our pews in the Sanctuary each week, we are surrounded by those very beautiful stained glass windows. Sometimes we take them for granted and sometimes we are distracted by them, yet we always feel that they belong there and are part of our history.

In 1904 The Whosoever Circle of Kings Daughters donated funds to the Church for the purpose of installing a memorial stained glass window in the Old Brick Church. The question of windows for the Church came up again at the Consistory meeting and, according to their minutes, "was answered by appointing a committee to take charge of the matter." The committee members were Mr. L.F. Schanck, Mr. T.F. Burke, Mrs. Chas. Conover, Mrs. J.H. Baird and Mrs. E. Carson. Consistory minutes of 1905 state that the committee was at work and hoped "to see the fruits of their labor ere long."

In 1905, the members visited other churches, studied various window designs and consulted with experts. There is David Wells family history saying that "Uncle Henry" Schanck, a Consistory member, helped design these windows. Henry was related by marriage to S.B. Wells, Consistory clerk in 1905 and current Wells family Church members.

In 1906, the Memorial window was installed at a cost of \$170. Additional costs were covered by the sale of the book Bi-Centennial Celebration of the Reformed Church of the Navesink and it's Two Branches. This book was edited by Rev. Abram I. Martine who was Church Pastor 1900-1905. It could be assumed that the remaining windows followed shortly thereafter and were funded by donations. Donors can be evidenced by the names located on the plaques on the stained glass windows. Unfortunately, there is little more information about the installation, cost, design or funding of the windows. Please add to this history if you have information. Fortunately, even without knowing their history, you can continue enjoying their beauty.

## BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Old Brick welcomes the birth of Faye Lynn Garritt born on October 28, 2023  
Daughter of Eugene and Danielle Garritt  
Grandparents Michael and Terry MacDonald  
Great Grandparents Charles and Dorothy VanCuren

## MORGANVILLE CHURCH THRIFT STORE

MORGANVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, Conover Road, Marlboro, will open it's Thrift Store in April. They accept clothing, jewelry, toys, crafts, household items, electronics, china, bric-a-brac etc. ALL DONATIONS SHOULD BE IN GOOD CONDITION. Donations are currently being accepted and can be placed under the overhang (there is a sign) at the Church building. Proceeds go to charity. Let's help support our community church activities. DONATE then SHOP.

## HYMN FEST

Please join us for HYMN FEST 2024 at our regular service on June 2 for a celebration of some of your favorite hymns. The congregation and choir will sing a few of those favorite old time hymns---the ones you've known forever that always make you feel good.

With this in mind, please submit the titles of 2,3,or 4 of your "all time favorites." Suggestions can be made on the Hymn Fest forms available at the Church, at the Hall or by text to Dorothy Wells at 732-995-4164 by May 1.

## LIFTS US UP INFORMATION

Dear friends from Old Brick Reformed Church, the ministry of Love Lifts Us Up, a ministry you played such a huge role in creating, continues to provide assistance to families that have a seriously ill child in the Pediatric or Neonatal units at Jersey Shore University Hospital. Since the day LLUU began (about seven years ago), the organization has helped approximately 550 families and just about everyday new families are added to that number. And, we can't thank all of you enough. On behalf of Love Lifts Us Up we say: "Thank you!" for your ongoing support.



If you'd like to help or send a financial donation, please call Pastor George and let him know of your interest or send your financial gifts to:



Love Lifts Us Up, P. O. Box 382, Ocean Grove, New Jersey 07756  
or through LLUU website, LLUU.org.

Love Lifts Us Up is a 501c3 non-profit. All your gifts are tax deductible.

## OUR MISSION

### 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