

Focus on Faith

Come home ... to Faith

CONSISTORY CORNER

2015 is proving to be a challenge to all, but we do like challenges and under the leadership of Supervisor Pastor Dave and Betty we are moving right along and making gains.

Brad and the Search Team have started their work looking for a new pastor for our congregation. This is going to take some time to find that special person, but the team does have a couple of leads. In the meantime we still have our wonderful substitute pastors with us each week.

The low number of students at the nursery school has been a concern but the staff and committee are passionately exploring all means to make the program one parents can't resist and one that will boost numbers.

We won't forget this unbelievable winter weather in a hurry, however in the harshest weather our hardy congregation shows up on the coldest Sundays. Fortunately, spring is just around the corner!

Helen Duthie



Come, now is the time to Worship!



Faith Reformed Church

Upcoming Dates to remember!

		<i>March</i>
<i>1st</i>	<i>9:30am</i>	<i>Communion</i>
<i>3rd h</i>	<i>5:30pm</i>	<i>CCNS</i>
<i>8th</i>	<i>11:00am</i>	<i>Finance</i>
<i>15th</i>	<i>11:00am</i>	<i>Search Committee</i>
<i>22nd</i>	<i>11:00am</i>	<i>Consistory</i>
<i>22nd</i>	<i>9:30am</i>	<i>Easter Lily Orders Due</i>

Every Tuesday AA meetings are held in the Fellowship Hall.

*For information contact Joe at 732.547.7247
The Zion Baptist Church service Sundays 11:30AM
Contact Pastor Kevin DeAngelo at 721.567.0608*

*Join us for worship every
Sunday morning at 9:30 am*

CREATIVE CAMPUS NURSERY SCHOOL

March is here and we are hoping for some warmer weather. The children are looking forward to being able to go outside, even if it is just for a walk! They were very excited to sit on the floor and watch the chicks run around and then get to hold one. We had a full hatch of 12 again!

They will have very busy and exciting first week of March. On Monday, they will participate in a day of fun activities for Dr. Seuss' Birthday. They will play games, have a special snack, and have stories read to them. To top it off, they will do all this in their pajamas and slippers! On Friday they are going to spend an hour at school with their dad doing a craft, having a special snack and getting their picture taken. I am exhausted just thinking about it.

They will continue with their letter, numbers and shapes. They are doing very well recognizing and spelling their names.

We are again selling Old Monmouth candy and would appreciate your help. order forms are due on Wednesday, March 13th.

We are still accepting registration for next year and look forward to showing the school to your family and friends.

Jaime Brockie

Email: ccns.hazlet@gmail.com

P732.264.8050

Property Update

Bob Martinek

There is not much to report besides snow, snow, snow -- which adds up to thousands of dollars.

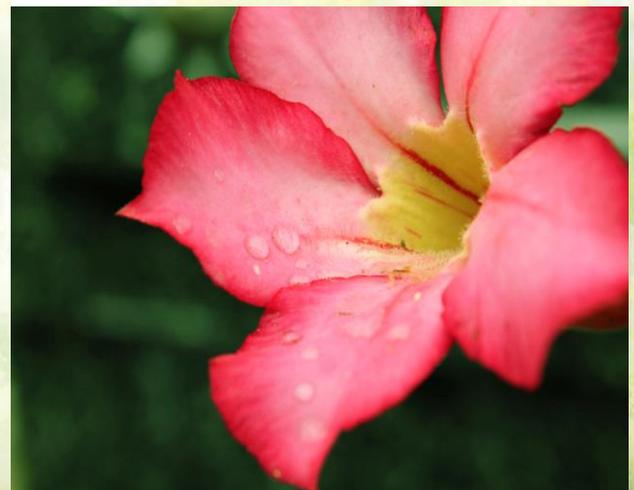
Thanks to Brad Altland who has cleared our sidewalks on Middle road and Poole ave after every snowfall with our snow-blower.

Sometime over the next two months we will be painting and upgrading a few items in the bathrooms in the new wing. If you can volunteer an hour or two for painting please see Bob Martinek.

Watch the bulletin for our spring cleanup date.

* FORMATION OF GARDEN CLUB*

It looks like we will not be planting flowers in the front of the church this year since only three people have volunteered for the garden club. We need two more volunteers so that no one is overworked. The planting of the flowers will only take about two hours in May and then each member would be responsible to weed once weekly every 5th week. See Bob Martinek if you would like to see the front of our church look nice.



A time for prayer

God of compassion, bless us and those we love, our friends and families, that, drawing close to you, we may be drawn closer to each other, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. Let us pray especially for those we lift to you by name:

Alice Gottlieb, Charlie Russo, Susan And Barry Cutler, Pastor Dey, Stanley Reid, MaryAnn Martinek, Rev. Bob Bender, Pat Cutler, Dan Gervasio Jr., Schaeffner Family, Marguerite Hazzard., Frances Hinterleter, Wilma Flagg,, Pastor Brunemeyer and Mark Vitollo,, Adele (Lucy Perez's sister)

Please provide comfort and strength for all our friends and family living through their grief and all challenges that come when our hearts are broken. God we call to you for all the unnamed who face issues of health, addictions, violence and the many issues of unstable mental health. Hear our prayer for families and friends who struggle with crisis; who struggle with poverty – poverty of resources; poverty of spirit; poverty of friendship; poverty of hope. We lift our hearts for all people living in oppression and strife in the entire world, we pray for you, dear, gracious Lord, to hear the cries of your people.



MISSIONS

MORT'S MISSION If the people in Newark ever needed warm blankets and clothing it has to be now! The cold days will still be with us in March. Please continue to bring in coats, sweaters, jackets and other items of clothing.

KMFP Thank you for your gifts of food for the folks in the area who are trying to stretch money to pay for rent and utilities. The pantry relies on donations so they can give each client or family two bags of food a month which is a help.

MISSION of the MONTH Goats for Families. A goat will provide milk and cheese for the family and the family can also make a little extra money by selling milk and cheese. Laura has purchased a goat and the deacons have purchased another. That makes two families we are helping. Can we make it three?

Thank you for your gift to FINCA A small loan enables poor women to start a small business and with your gift you have helped lift another family out of poverty.

Dimla Bhoi The Sunday school children sent a birthday card and present to Dimla to celebrate her 15th birthday. Thanks kids.

Thank you for caring and sharing!!!

Psalm 146:6-8 (NIV) He is the Maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them he remains faithful forever. He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous.

A BIT OF HISTORY OF THE CRUSADES AS DESCRIBED IN ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

The topic of the Crusades made headline news when it was mentioned at the recent National Prayer Breakfast. I want to seize this opportunity to address the longstanding history of misinformation about the Crusades. Most people have a historically and factually inaccurate understanding of that movement. That point of view can be summed up as believing that the Crusades were unjust wars waged against peaceful Islam motivated mostly by greed. Here is a description of the Crusades from the Britannica Concise Encyclopedia.

Crusades: Military expeditions beginning in the late 11th century, that were organized by Western Christians in response to centuries of Muslim wars of expansion. Their objectives were to check the spread of Islam, to retake control of the Holy Land, to conquer pagan areas, and to recapture formerly Christian territories. The Crusades were seen by many of their participants as a means of redemption and expiation for sins. While the motives were primarily defensive and spiritual, these campaigns were also influenced by the rules of engagement of the Middle Ages. Some of those unwritten rules were barbaric by our standards and worthy of condemnation. However, it is difficult to project a twenty first century worldview back several centuries. The same article from Britannica also states: "The Crusades constitute a controversial chapter in the history of Christianity, and their excesses have been the subject of centuries of historiography. Some of those excesses were actions in direct disobedience to papal orders. I don't think that anyone would deny that atrocities took place at the hands of Crusaders, but too many accounts falsify the larger picture. Under Muslim rule, Christians were persecuted, and in some cases physically, in others economically.

PART OF THE GOAL OF THE CRUSADES WAS NOT ONLY THE RECLAMATION OF CHRISTIAN LANDS, BUT ALSO THE LIBERATION OF CHRISTIANS. Again, my intention here is not to attack Islam, while vindicating the Church. I am interested in historical truth. In that spirit, I want to correct another factual inaccuracy that was recently reported by a commentator, also discussing the Crusades. He claimed that they were primarily aimed at the Jews. Any actions against Jews were committed by individuals, not by the mandate of the Crusades, and were condemned by the popes.

Facts About Folks

Glad to hear Stanley Reid is home after his stay at the Arnold Walter Nursing Home . Now Stanley rest and practice your jokes. We know between your wife and daughter you will be well taken care of.

Continued prayers for MaryAnn Martinek as she will be having surgery on her eye.

The Aumack family needs our prayers and we hope they are back home.

Joyce Haseman

Matthew 5:13-15 Be Salt and Light“ You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

Guest Pastors for March

- 1 **Pastor Theodore Muller**
- 8 **Reverend Lisa James**
- 15 **Reverend Lisa James**
- 22 **Pastor Bob Erbig**
- 29 **Reverend Eltje Brunemeyer**

Altar Flowers:

March

- 1st *In honor of JR Novak's birthday by Grandma and Grandpa*
- 8th *Open*
- 15th *Open*
- 22nd *Open*
- 29th *Open*

The flower chart and envelopes are located on the Faith & Community Bulletin Board. The cost of each arrangement is \$15.00.

Coffee Hour

COFFEE HOUR

- March 1st *The Sanseveres*
- 8th *Madeline and John*
- 15th *The Aumacks*
- 22nd *Lucy Perez & Bob Foster*
- 29th *The Andrews*

Crib Nursery

- March 1st *Helen Duthie*
- 8th *Patty Altland*
- 15th *Sue Schmidt*
- 22nd *Helen Duthie*
- 29th *Joyce Haseman*

March Lectionary Readings

- 1 *Genesis 17: 1-7, Psalm 22: 23-31*
- Romans 4: 13-25, Mark 8: 31-38*
- 8 *Exodus 20: 1-17, Psalm 19*
- 1 *Corinthians 1: 18-25, John 2: 13-22*
- 15 *Numbers 21: 4-9, Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22*
- Ephesians 2: 1-10, John 3: 14-21*
- 22 *Jeremiah 31: 31-34, Psalm 51: 1-12*
- Hebrews 5: 5-10, John 12: 20-33*
- 29 *Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29, Mark 11: 1-11*
- Isaiah 50: 4-9, Psalm 31: 9-16*



WORSHIP NIGHT MINISTRIES

Please join us in worship through music, word and fellowship on the First Friday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Faith Reformed Church Building.

May God's glory be the gift we bring this season.

Worship Night Ministries

Further information can be found on our website;

<http://worshipnightministries.webs.com/>

Kim Morelli. [732-558-0092](tel:732-558-0092)

Jack Hicks. [732-888-0433](tel:732-888-0433)

Finance

Bob Martinek

TITHING REPORT - Envelope giving for January was \$900.00 a week which is \$25.00 a week OVER budget.

Designated offerings for January were:

- Deacon's fund.....\$ 92.00*
- Mission fund 47.00*
- FINCA..... 32.00*
- Classis dues..... 360.00*
- Initial offering..... 70.00*

THANK YOU for your generosity and dedication.



Church Secretary

Michelle Andrews

Secretaryfrc@gmail.com

Office hours generally

Saturdays

9:00am-12:00pm

Faith Reformed Church

215 Middle Road

Hazlet NJ 07730

732.888.0200

www.frchazlet.org

Find us on Facebook!

2015 CLASSIS DUES

The breakdown for Classis dues in 2015 is as follows:

- General Synod..... \$ 51.73*
- Regional Synod..... \$17.15*
- Classis of New Brunswick..... \$37.92*
- Total..... \$106.80*

The Classis dues go up every year but we are only asking for \$ 60.00. The church absorbs the rest.



