

April 2010

THE MISSION OF NORTH BRANCH REFORMED CHURCH
*is to invite all people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
that results in a continuing worship of God and
daily service in the Holy Spirit's presence.*

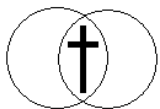
May 2010 Messenger Deadline: April 22nd + Bulletin Deadline: Each week by Thursday Noon

Adult Education

ADULT EDUCATION: Continuing through **June 13th**, the Sunday morning Adult Ed class at 9:15 AM in the Upper Room will be about *Christian Character*, following a book by Andrea Sterk and Peter Scazzero. Come and discuss how we can be more like Christ. Each lesson stands alone, so please join us for any or all sessions. There will be no class on Easter Sunday.

MONTHLY NOON BIBLE STUDY: Meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, **April 13th**, and will focus on the Book of John.

SMALL GROUPS: Interested in being part of a circle of care with Christ in the center? Join a small group. Most of our groups meet monthly and function as either a Bible Study, task group, or support group. For more information contact



Pastor Todd in the church office.

Building and Grounds

SPRING CLEAN-UP: The B&G Committee and, hopefully, you will be gathering **May 1st**, starting at 8:00 AM, to give NBRC it's Spring cleaning. Speed bumps will be re-set, windows will be washed, sticks/trash picked up, bushes trimmed, weeds pulled and more. All we need is an hour of your help to make this a successful day. Call Dennis McGale (908-704-8523) or Keith Strege (908-231-0764) with any questions.



Christian Action

MISSION OFFERING: We collect a mission offering on the first Sunday of each month. The April Mission Offering will go to the Food Bank for Bound Brook. Mission Offering envelopes are at the beginning of

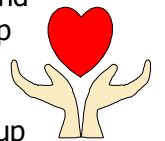


each month in the offering envelope packages. Additional envelopes will be placed in the pew racks.

FOUR SEASONS OF GIVING: The Christian Action committee will be collecting toiletries (soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, deodorant, etc.) during April to June. A box is available in Fellowship Hall for your donations.

Christian Care

JANUS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP: The purpose of this group is to offer education and support in an attempt to build friendship and understanding among people suffering from loss and aid them in coping with their losses. This group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at The Centre at Raritan, 1124 Highway 202S-A2, Raritan, NJ 08869. The next meeting will be Tuesday, **April 13th**. For more information please contact Barbara Ronca. M.S.W., L.C.S.W., Counseling and Therapy Services at 908-218-9062.



CHRISTIAN CARE SERVICES: Blood Pressure Check: 2nd Sunday of every month in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 AM. **Medical Equipment:** Judy Wilkinson, 908-218-1575. **Prayer Concerns:** Kathy Herrman, 908-231-1917. **Small Chore Services for the Elderly:** Louise Manning, 908-722-3834 or call any of the deacons listed in the bulletin. **Transportation Needs:** Alice Swan, 908-722-5308. **DVDs and Audio Cassettes of worship services for shut-ins:** Fred Swan, 908-722-5308. For further information regarding Christian Care and its services, please call Louise Manning 908-722-3834 or Nancy Vollers 908-725-7656.

PLEASE NOTIFY us when you or a member of your family is admitted to a hospital. This knowledge will

be useful for visitation and prayers. You may contact the church office, 908-725-2313, Pastor Todd, 908-725-2313, or Louise Manning, 908-722-3834.

Consistory Highlights

THE CONSISTORY DECIDED TO:

- Allow Pastor Mark to go away for vacation and continuing education from **April 15th to April 22nd**
- Approve Youth Group fundraisers for the summer mission trip
- Gratefully accept \$5,000 donation from the Center for Life Transitions and make it available for scholarships for CLT programs and services

Fellowship

SPRING CAMPING IS HERE: May 7th to May 9th -



Please call Allaire State Park, Farmington, NJ at 732-938-2371 to register for a campsite, yurt or cabin or just come for the day! Enjoy an outdoor worship service and the company of great friends.

Potluck supper Saturday night!!! If you have any questions, email Judy Schwarz at 908-722-7564.

Men's Ministries

The next **MEN'S BREAKFAST** is Saturday, **April 17th** from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited for good food, good friends, and a better faith.



Prayer Needs

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Evelyn Fisher, Marie Hunter (daughter-in-law of Marilyn Hunter), Marilyn Hunter, Mary Knapp, Jim McKelvey, Cathy Pfauth, Harold Polhemus.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SERVICEMEN: Michael Campbell (nephew of Janet Kolb), Tom Cantilina, Adam Clark (in Iraq), Jim Crosley (husband of Jennifer (Munzenmaier) Crosley), Nichole Haas (niece of Ron & Lori Taylor), Greg Hall (nephew of Pat Cahill, in Iraq), Rob McCracken (husband of Meg (Yarnell) McCracken, in Afghanistan), Michael B. Morella (nephew of Carl and Kris Weigner, in Afghanistan), Colin O'Rourke, Marc Reinecker (cousin of Rick Smith).

Preschool

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2010-2011: The Preschool offers priority to church



members who would like to register their child for our Preschool classes next year. Please call the Preschool Director, Jennifer Landrieu at 908-725-2326 for more information on classes and tuition rates.

MR. RAY CONCERT: The Preschool PTO presents children's singer/songwriter/musician, mr. RAY, who will perform in concert on Saturday, **April 10th** from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Milltown Elementary School. Church members are offered priority in ticket sales for the concert! Please call the Preschool Director, Jenn Landrieu, at 908-725-2326.

Sympathies

OUR SYMPATHY to **Sharon Hartzog** and family on the death of her husband **Bruce Hartzog**, who passed away in **January 9th**; to **Grace Larsen** and family on the passing of her husband **Henry Larsen** on **March 12th**; and to **Brian Katona** and family on the death of his father, **Larry**, on **March 22nd**.

Women's Ministry

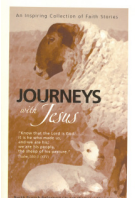
WOMEN'S MINISTRY MONTHLY MEETING will be held on Tuesday, **April 13th** at 7:30 PM at NBRC in the Upper Lounge. We warmly welcome all women of the church interested in sharing their ideas to help with our mission.

CROSSROADS XXVI: *CHALLENGES IN OUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY* is the theme of Crossroads (a retreat for women), which will take place at Harvey Cedars Conference Center, Long Beach Island, NJ, Friday, **April 16th** to Saturday, **April 17th**. The Keynote Speakers will be Vicky Menning, RCA Coordinator of Church Health and Coaching, and Jessica Bratt, RCA Executive Coordinator. Registration forms are available in the office.

BLOW-OUT SHIRT SALE: ALL SHIRTS \$5!!! *Pink T-Shirt, Blue Golf Shirt and Denim Shirt are available.* Two logos--"Let Us Encourage One Another" and "Be Still." All proceeds go to our local missions. For further information, please call the office at 908-725-2313.

CHANCEL FLOWERS: If you would like to provide the Sunday flower arrangement in memory of someone or just would like to provide an arrangement, there is a sign-up sheet for this purpose in Fellowship Hall. See Fred Yarnell, 908-722-4759, for details.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS: Read almost 100 personal stories of faith from North Branch Church members. The book is only \$10.00. North Branch Women's Ministries will donate all proceeds from the sale of "Journeys with Jesus" to local



missions. To obtain a copy, contact Pam Frueh at 908-526-1829.

Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY, SEDER MEAL: On Thursday, **April 1st**, at 6:30 PM, in lieu of a worship service, Women's Ministries will be hosting a Seder Meal. We will be celebrating the Passover somewhat similar to how Christ celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples. **Sign up is mandatory by Sunday, March 28th as we will need a head count in order to purchase food and set up tables.** You can sign up in Fellowship Hall or by contacting Laurel Ennis (908-722-1018) or the church office (908-725-2313).

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2ND: The Sanctuary of NBRC will be open all day for prayer and meditation.



Cross processional starting at 1:15 PM. Please arrange carpools to help you get back as we process behind the cross from NBRC to St. Bernard.

SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER GROUP

meets in the Upper Room on Sunday mornings at 8:45 AM before the worship services to pray for the ongoing ministry of NBRC. Anyone wishing to join is welcome!!!



Youth

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

2010: August 16 to August 20th from 9:00-11:45 AM. Teachers and Guides (6th through adult needed!!) Full week volunteers can register their kids now for free! Contact Amie Wengryn at Wengryn@msn.com if you are interested.

NURSERY CARE: Childcare is available for children ages 0 to 3 years during both worship services on Sunday. Our nursery is a cheerful, warm and inviting space staffed by loving volunteers. For information or questions, please contact Natsuko Buurstra, 908-252-3727.

HOW DOES JESUS WANT HIS CHURCH TO BE HIS HANDS AND FEET TO THOSE LOOKING FOR WORK? During this time of high unemployment, we will publicize information for those seeking jobs in the Messenger, bulletin and, if requested, our website. Jobseekers should email the office (office@NBRC.com) the information listed below (with your name which, of course, will not be publicized), and we are asking job holders to be reading, praying and sending helpful information to the same office email.

Type of Job Sought	Title of Last Job Held	Short Description of the Industry	Years Experience in that Industry
Supervisor (warehouse, inventory control, dispensing, manufacturing.)	Warehouse Manager GMP compliant warehouse	Pharma/Biotech	10
Program/Project/Product Manager	Coordinator of Product Management - Marketing	Wireless Telecommunications	8+
Customer Service/ Administrative/ Clerical		Wireless Telecommunications	20+
Executive/Administrative Assistant	Executive Assistant	Exec. Assistant to President of a division marketing company. Made travel arrangements, presentation materials, managed calendar, planned meetings, client dinners, and client visits. Also did some expense tracking	22 years at company, 13 as Exec. Assistant
Software Quality Assurance Analyst or Manager	Software Quality Assurance Analyst	Responsible for testing product and <i>assuring</i> that a quality product is delivered within a promised timeframe.	Over 22 years in Information Technology
Software Configuration Management, Software Release Management, and Defect Tracking Management	Software Quality Assurance Analyst	Manage the software configuration management process of versioning objects, code, and documentation. Manage Defect Tracking process and promotion of change requests from developer to tester to client. <i>Monitor and report to senior management the progress of defects and customer issues from receipt to release.</i>	Over 22 years in Information Technology
Procedural / Systems Analyst /Technical Writer	Software Quality Assurance Analyst	Soup to nuts "full project lifecycle" analysis, requirements planning, design and implementation of software systems.	Over 22 years in Information Technology
Corporate Trainer	Software Quality Assurance Analyst	Train client or in-house staff pertaining to procedures, methods, or the "how to" of using a software product.	Over 22 years in Information Technology

**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION
AND OFFICE HOURS**

Telephone: 908-725-2313

Fax: 908-725-5682

Email: Office@NBRC.com

Web Page: www.NBRC.com

Pastor Todd Buurstra

Pastor of Worship and Witness

E-mail: Buurstra@NBRC.com

Telephone: 908-642-2889 (after office hours)

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM - Monday thru Thursday

Evening hours & meetings by appointment

Pastor Mark E. Swart

Pastor of Discipleship

E-mail: Swart@NBRC.com

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM - Mon, Tues, Thurs and Friday

Evening hours & meetings by appointment

Brian Katona

Music Director

E-mail: briankatona@gmail.com or

Music@NBRC.com

Monday -11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Tuesday & Thursday - 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday & Friday -2:00 to 5:00 PM

Doris Munzenmaier

Office Administrator

E-mail: Office@NBRC.com

8:30 AM to 5:00 PM - Monday thru Friday

Office periodically closed at lunchtime.

Jennifer Landrieu

Preschool Director - 908-725-2326

E-mail: Preschool@NBRC.com

Barbara O'Rourke
Kirkside Administrator
E-mail: Kirkside@NBRC.com

CONSISTORY

Officers: President Pastor Todd Buurstra, Co-Vice
President Pastor Mark E. Swart, Clerk Jane
Yarnell, Treasurer Doris Munzenmaier

Elders: Sue Betz, Wes Frueh, Diane Laich, Carlos Lugo,
Carmen Lugo, Sue McGeown, Jeff Minchin, Co-
Vice President Tim Sandford

Deacons: Doug Bateman, Craig Casucci, Violet Coy,
Chair Larry Fox, Ruthann Pauli, Judy Staats

Committees and Chairperson(s):

Adult Education (sub of Christian Ed) - Sue McGeown
Audio Visual (sub of Worship) - Bruce Taggart
Building & Grounds - Dennis McGale, Keith Strege
Cemetery (sub of B&G) - Jim Houston
Chancel (sub of Women's Ministry) - Fred Yarnell
Christian Action - Larry Forni
Christian Care - Louise Manning, Nancy Vollers
Christian Education - Donna Taggart
Ecumenical Relations - Bruce McConnell
Fellowship - Nancy Fiedler
Finance - John Harmer
Kirkside (sub of Christian Action) - Kathy Rue
Memorial Gifts (sub of Finance) - Janet Kolb
Men's Ministry - Wes Frueh
Music (sub of Worship) - Patti Harmer
Pastor/Staff Relations - Paul Soskey
Preschool Board - Larry Fox
Women's Ministry - Laurel Ennis
Worship - Carrie Dilgard

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR APRIL

EVERY SUNDAY

9:15 AM - Contemporary Worship Service

9:15 AM - Adult Education

9:30 AM - Church School

10:15 AM - Fellowship Time

10:45 AM - Traditional Blended Worship Service

THURSDAY, April 1, 2010

Maundy Thursday

Seder Meal

6:30 PM

FRIDAY, April 2, 2010

Good Friday

Cross Processional

1:15 PM

SUNDAY, April 4, 2010

(Communion Sunday)

Easter Sunday

Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.

A Lived Easter

Luke 24:1-12

SUNDAY, April 11, 2010

Second Sunday of Easter

Pastor Mark Swart will preach.

SUNDAY, April 18, 2010

Third Sunday of Lent

Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.

Acts 9:1-20; Revelation 5:11-14;

John 21:1-19

SUNDAY, April 25, 2010

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.

Acts 13:1, 16, 26-33; Revelation 7:9-
17; John 10:22-30