

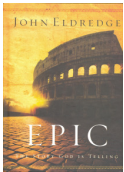
January 2010

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.*

February 2011 Messenger Deadline: January 25th + **Bulletin Deadline:** Each week by Thursday Noon

Adult Education

PASSIONATE SPIRITUALITY 2010: For six week beginning in January, we will be studying Epic: The Story God is Telling by John Eldredge. "A retelling of the Gospel in four acts." Revisit the drama of life. View God not only as the author but also as the lead actor. Explore God's motives and His heart. Discover the meaningful role we are all called to play.



- ◆ Pastor Todd will preach Sundays January 10th through February 14th on the book.
- ◆ The Sunday 9:15 AM Adult Class will focus on the book beginning January 3rd.
- ◆ There will be a discussion group on the book on Wednesday evenings beginning January at the home of Sue McGeown at 7:30 PM.
- ◆ Pastor Mark will lead a group discussion on the book Thursday morning beginning January 7th at 9:15 to 10:30 AM in the Upper Room.
- ◆ To learn of other opportunities to meet in a small group setting and study this terrific book contact Pastor Mark.

MONTHLY NOON BIBLE STUDY: Meets on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, **January 12th**, 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.

Births

CONGRATULATIONS TO Rick and Jill Smith, on the birth of a baby girl named **Peyton Claire** on **December 12th**, who is also the granddaughter of **Doris Munzenmaier**.

Christian Action

MISSION OFFERING: We collect a mission offering on the first Sunday of each month. Mission Offering envelopes are at the beginning of each month in the offering envelope packages. Additional envelopes will be placed in the pew racks.



FROZEN FOOD TRAYS: Christian Action reminds everyone to use the frozen food trays found in fellowship hall for leftovers. These meals are distributed to those in need in the area. The trays are easy to use and you can leave them in the freezers in the kitchen at your convenience. Please help with this valuable mission of the church.

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, **January 12th**. 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.

Fellowship

PAPER GOODS WANTED: Do you have any paper goods from a past party or event just lying around your home, not being used? If so, we'd love to have them. We're collecting unopened packages of napkins, cups, and plates in their original plastic wrapping. They will be used at future fellowship coffee times. What a great way to recycle! Please place them in the box in the kitchen marked "paper goods".

Finance

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Your 2010 offering envelopes are now available in the Narthex. Please pick up your box!

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?: Get a brochure from church on our new endowment fund.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

HAVE A HEART FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES: Tickets for IHN's 5th Annual 50/50 Raffle are now on sale! Tickets are \$100.00 each and are tax deductible. Half the proceeds will benefit the homeless families of Somerset County and half will go to the lucky winner. Ticket sales are limited to only 300 and will be mailed to you upon receipt of payment along with your tax ID form. The drawing will be held on Tuesday, **February 16, 2010** at the Flynn Day Center at 4:00 PM--winner need not be present. For further information, please contact Administrative Coordinator Karen Donahue at 908-704-1920 or karenihn@verizon.net. Any donations may be mailed directly to: Interfaith Hospital Network of Somerset County, 908 West End Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876.

Kirkside

VACANCY: Do you know anyone interested in living in a shared house for seniors? There is a vacancy for one resident, male or female, age 62 or older, for a second-floor room at Kirkside. Please contact Barbara O'Rourke at 908-526-8115 for further information.



Men's Ministries

The next **MEN'S BREAKFAST** is Saturday, **January 16th**, 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, Bruce Hartzog, Marie Hunter (daughter-in-law of Marilyn Hunter), Marilyn Hunter, Mary Knapp, Henry Larsen, Jim McKelvey, Eva Jane Mosko, 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), Colin O'Rourke, Marc Reinecker (cousin of Rick Smith, in Iraq).

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. Registration for church members will begin on Sunday, **January 3rd** between services in Fellowship Hall. Registration opens to the public on Wednesday, **January 13th**. Please call the Preschool Director, Jennifer Landrieu at 908-725-2326 for more information on classes and tuition rates.



Sympathies

OUR SYMPATHY to **Patti Indrisek** and family on the death of her husband **Peter Indrisek**, who passed away on **November 25th**.

Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S MINISTRY MONTHLY MEETING will be held on Tuesday, **January 12th** at 7:30 PM at NBRC in the Upper Lounge. We warmly welcome all women of

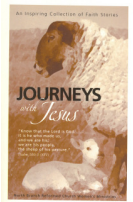
the church interested in sharing their ideas to help with our mission.

BODY AND SOUL is a 75 min. cardiovascular fitness class. It's fun, it's for every fitness level, and it's held right here in Fellowship Hall. The class meets on Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9:15 to 10:30am, and the new session, *Stay Strong*, begins Wednesday, **January 6th**. Classes are also available in the evening and on Saturdays -- just ask for details. Come try out a free class and start the New Year strengthening your body, soul and mind. Childcare is provided. For additional information, please contact the ACE/CPR certified instructor, Eileen Gilmartin, at 908-725-2694, or by e-mail at egil9@comcast.net.

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

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

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
Transportation/Logistics Management	International Air Manager	Responsible for air exports and imports at both EWR & JFK airports.	20+
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
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, Tim Chamberlin, Wes Frueh, Janet
Kolb, Diane Laich, Carlos Lugo, Carmen Lugo,
Co-Vice President Tim Sandford
Deacons: Doug Bateman, Violet Coy, Larry Fox, Linda
Mayerik, Ruthann Pauli, Chair Keith Strege

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 - Jim Housten
Chancel (sub of Women's Ministry) - Fred Yarnell
Christian Action - Lynn Ritter Cargill
Christian Care - Louise Manning, Nancy Vollers
Christian Education - Donna Taggart
Church Planting - Mary Beth Iodice
Ecumenical Relations - Bruce McConnell
Fellowship - Nancy Fiedler
Finance - Wendy Kroon
Hope House Maintenance (sub of B&G) - Marty Herrman
Kirkside (sub of Christian Action) - Kathy Rue
Memorial Gifts - Janet Kolb
Men's Ministry - Wes Frueh
Music - Patti Harmer
Pastor/Staff Relations - Paul Soskey
Preschool Board - Larry Fox
Women's Ministry - Laurel Ennis
Worship - Carrie Dilgard

WORSHIP SERVICES FOR JANUARY

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

SUNDAY, January 3, 2010

(Communion Sunday)
Second Sunday after Christmas
Pastor Mark Swart will preach.
Home for the Holidays
Jeremiah 31:7-14

SUNDAY, January 10, 2010

First Sunday aft the Epiphany
Carol Choir Musical

SUNDAY, January 17, 2010

Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.
Epic: The Story God is Telling
Act One: Eternal Love

Sunday, January 24, 2010

Third Sunday after the Epiphany
Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.
Epic: The Story God is Telling
Act Two: The Entrance of Evil

SUNDAY, January 31, 2010

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Pastor Todd Buurstra will preach.
Epic: The Story God is Telling
Act Three: The Battle of the Heart
Pioneer Skit