

TRINITY NEWS

March 2017

Trinity Reformed Church
North Plainfield, N.J. 07063

Rev. Scott R. Harris, Pastor
Ginger Smellie, Editor

Members & Friends,

There is a parable in Luke chapter 10 that appears in none of the other gospels. What prompted Jesus to tell it was two questions asked by an expert in the Law or Torah, presumably a Pharisee as they were experts in the Law. The first was, "What must I do to get eternal life?"

Jesus responded with a question of His own; "What's written in the Torah? How do YOU read it?" Of course being a good Jewish person the Pharisee responded with the first commandment to love God and only God and the second like it to love one's neighbor. Jesus affirmed the man's answer but the man then asked the second question; "Who is my neighbor?" In other words – who do I have to be loving toward? Just those like me? Those who live near me? Those who are the same religion as me? Those who obey the law? What are the exemptions?

Jesus' response was the parable that drove home the shocking answer; "Everyone! Anyone who needs you is your neighbor." It's not just the safe people, or the good people, or the healthy people. It's everybody.

In the book of Acts we read about the early church and how they shared all things and if anyone had a need they met it. Not just any church members; anyone! And as a result, according to Acts 2:47b they had; "...the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved." It seems as if God tied the adding to their numbers to their sharing with any in need and incurring the goodwill of all the people. Apparently they were getting known as do-gooders and neighbor lovers.

With all that in mind I came across a lawn sign that I saw and immediately knew I wanted to see on our church lawn! In English, Spanish and Arabic it says; "No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor." So I ran it by consistory and contacted a print shop that makes signs like that and ordered some. I can't wait to put them on our lawn so that everyone knows we are here and we care! As we seek to reintroduce ourselves to our community and faithfully follow Jesus, what a great testimony to them that says that we are neighbor lovers!

Grace & Peace,

- Pastor Scott

In the month of January Pastor Scott gave the following sermons:

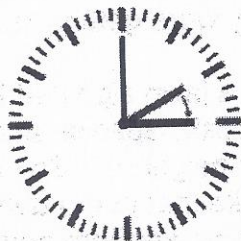
On January 1st our sermon was "Our Call" with scriptures from Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12 and Matthew 2:1-12. The sermon showed that the call of God's people is to find a way to utter the promises of inclusion, belonging and the ongoing passion of the Creator for the creation to the world around them. It is hoped that in response to this message we will speak truth to power in calling for the inclusion of all people in the church.

On January 8th the title of the sermon was "Coronation Day". That sermon was based on Acts 10:34-43 and Matthew 3:13-17. This sermon focused on how Jesus' baptism served as His coronation or anointing as God's "anointed one" to be the instrument of God's power in the world, engaging in a struggle against evil, oppression and domination. An appropriate response to this word from God is to join with Jesus in carrying out the mission of God's peace that is at the heart of Jesus' baptism.

On January 15th our scripture readings were from Isaiah 49:1-7 and John 1:29-42. The sermon was titled "Behold the Lamb!" Here it was shown that Jesus is the Lamb of God, the sacrifice that died so that we may live. In response we point others to Jesus as the sacrifice that atones for our sins.

On January 22nd our scripture lessons came from Isaiah 9:1-14 and Matthew 4:12-23 and the sermon title was "The Light". The message of this sermon was that Jesus is the light of the world that was sent from God to the end that the listeners will be reflectors of the Light!

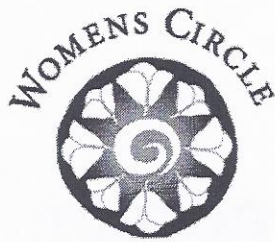
On January 29th our scripture lessons were from Micah 6:1-8 and Matthew 5:1-12. The sermon title was "What the LORD Requires." This sermon showed that God wants His kingdom established with justice, kindness, mercy and love. The Beatitudes found in Matthew serve as Jesus' battle plan for establishing the kingdom of God. May we join in that effort, establishing God's kingdom here and now on God's terms, not the world's!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

BEGINS SUNDAY MARCH 12TH.

Set your clocks ahead 1 hour when you go to bed on Saturday night!



BROEK CIRCLE – will meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 12:00 p.m. in the Library Lounge.

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BROEK COOKS will have Chicken Gumbo and Creamy Potato Soups available on March 19th. An order form is on the hall bulletin board.

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JACOBA CIRCLE – will meet on Monday, March 13th at 7:30pm in the Library Lounge. Hostess, Linda Raysick.

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JACOBA CIRCLE will host a Pot Luck Luncheon on Sunday, March 13th following worship. Check bulletin board for sign-up sheet.



APRIL Newsletter DEADLINE -

Wednesday, March 15th.



ASH WEDNESDAY- March 1st

Communion- 8:00 pm in the Chapel.



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday March 1st: No Bible Study – Ash Wednesday

Wednesday March 8th: No Bible Study

Wednesday March 15th: “With All Your Might: The Final Test”

Wednesday March 22nd: “A Well-Watered Garden”



Please make the following change in your Church directory:

Betty Jane Tingley
6778 New Castle Ct.
Lakewood, NJ 08701

Phone number- 848-245-0674

JACOBA CIRCLE PROJECT

Jacoba Circle will be sponsoring
a food collection to be donated to
"THE FOOD BANK."




The items needed are listed below.

Tuna
Soup
Macaroni & Cheese
Spaghetti Sauce
CANNED MEATS
(Corned Beef, Spam, Stew)
Canned Spaghetti
Canned Fruit
Cereal
Juice
Parmalat Milk
Peanut Butter
Jelly

**Boxes are available, for your donations,
in the Narthex and at the parking lot entrance.**

MARCH

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Every Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary			1.  ASH WEDNESDAY Service 8:00pm	2. Choir 7:30pm	3.	4.
5.	6. Consistory 7:30pm	7.	8.	9. Choir 7:30pm	10.	11. Set your clocks AHEAD! 1 Hour
12. Daylight savings time begins	13. Jacoba 7:30pm	14. Broek 12:00pm	15. *Newsletter Deadline *Bible Study 7:30pm	16. Choir 7:30pm	17.  St. Patrick's Day	18.
19. *Soup Pick- up *Jacoba Pot Luck Luncheon	20. 	21.	22.. Bible Study 7:30pm	23. Choir 7:30pm	24.	25.
26.	27.	28.	29.	30. Choir 7:30pm	31.	