

TRINITY NEWS

October 2015

Trinity Reformed Church
North Plainfield, N.J. 07063

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

Members & Friends,

Is the human heart good or bad? I grew up in the Christian Reformed Church, a VERY strict, super-conservative denomination started by immigrants from the Netherlands who split from the Reformed Church in America in 1857 because were shocked to come to America and find worship being conducted in English! Of course, by the time that I attended Sunday School there in the latter half of the 20th Century, they were speaking English themselves!

From an early age I was taught that salvation was by faith alone, through grace alone as revealed in the Bible alone. I was also taught that the human heart was deceitful above all things and prone to sin. I believe that this is still a prevalent idea in Christian circles to this day. But the Bible actually says something different about our hearts (by heart I do not mean the organ that pumps blood through our veins, I mean heart in the poetic sense, the sense understood by the scriptures; the heart as the seat of our truest self.

The Bible teaches that we were all created good, that our nature was good at the creation but because of the fall of humanity into sinfulness, that nature has been corrupted and is sinful as well. However, through the work of Christ, again; according to the Bible, we have been given new hearts and those hearts are good. If they are not God is a liar. But when we don't accept that as the truth, we find it hard to make decisions because we can't trust our hearts. If we can't trust our hearts we won't find our calling, our place in God's kingdom because that is written by God on our hearts and comes through in our hearts' desires. If we can't trust our hearts, how can God speak to us because God speaks to our hearts in an intimate way? That's why Jesus had to give us new hearts, hearts of flesh in place of hearts of stone. Until we accept that we will live a life under guilt and shame for our hearts' desires and God will seem aloof, worship and prayer will seem like chores, not joys.

In the familiar parable of the sower, Jesus taught that the seed that fell on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word and retain it, and produce (see Luke 8:15). Did you hear that? Jesus Himself teaches that the heart can be noble and good! And that heart is yours if you are His because He has given you a new heart! This means that *your* heart is good!

What would happen if you believed that? If you *knew* that to be true? If we believed that we could do *anything*. We would follow Jesus *anywhere*!

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Scott

In August we had sermons on the following topics;

On August 2nd our scriptures were Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; Ephesians 4:1-16 and John 6:24-35 and our sermon was called "Our Spiritual Food Pyramid." Those scriptures teach us that God supplies all that we need for healthy spirituality and healthy churches. Let us seek after the true heavenly Bread that nourishes us unto life eternal; Jesus Christ!

On August 9th, continuing a theme of Jesus as the Bread of Heaven that brings life to the earth our scripture lessons were from 1 Kings 19:4-8 and John 6:35, 41-51 for our sermon "The Gift of Weariness". In that sermon we learned that we can view weariness as a gift, rather than a curse or a sign of weakness, because weariness can act as an indicator that we need something. That something that we need is God's help! Because of that, we seek to remember to lean into and learn from God in our weariness.

On August 16th and 23rd Pastor Scott was on vacation and our guest speaker was Ms. Marcella Christie.

On August 30th the sermon was "Pointing Fingers" based on Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; James 1:17-27 and Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23. From those Bible lessons we can see that it isn't enough to just "know" God's Word the Bible; we also have to "do" God's Word – we are expected to follow it! What might happen if each of us started a movement of prayer and loving obedience to God in our own lives? What problems would be solved? What obstacles would be removed? There is only one way to know for sure!

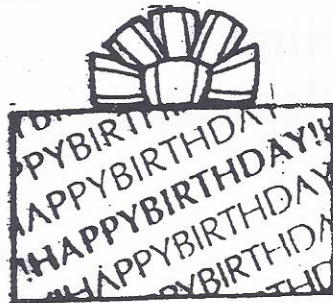


BROEK CIRCLE – will meet on Tuesday October 13th at 1:00 p.m. at home of Betty Jane Tingley, Joanne Nuber hostess.

BROEK members will be traveling to Port Newark, on Tuesday October 20th to pack Christmas gifts. If you would like to join us see Ginger.

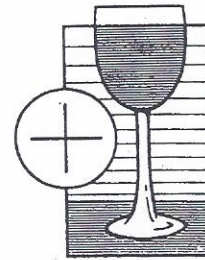
If you ordered soup Oct 18th is the pickup date. The next soup delivery will be in December.

JACOBA CIRCLE – Meeting to be announced



October, 2015

- 1. Dee Cox
- 10. Linda Raysick
- 30. Joshua Jackson



Communion

World Communion SUNDAY
October – 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Please make the following changes in your Church directory:

Kenderdine, Jennifer
313 Arch St. Apt 608
Philadelphia, PA 19106-1831

Macaully, Nora
201 Lamplight Ln.
Lewisburg, PA 17837-9788



October, Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, October 14th





When I say GOOD MORNING

I mean to say:

G- od
O- ffers us His
O- utstanding
D- evotion to




M- ake us
O- bedient and
R- eady for a
N- ew day with Him.
I- nspire others please, and
N- ever forget
G- od loves you!

AND SO DO I!

October



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Every Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary				1. Choir 7:30 pm	2.	3.
4. World Wide Communion 	5. Consistory 7:30 pm	6.	7. Bible Study 7:30 pm	8. Choir 7:30 pm	9.	10.
11.	12.	13. Broek Circle 1:00 pm	14.  Newsletter Deadline Bible Study 7:30 pm	15. Choir 7:30 pm	16.	17.
18. Soup pick-up 	19.	20.	21. Bible Study 7:30 pm	22. Choir 7:30 pm	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	28. Bible Study 7:30 pm	29. Choir 7:30 pm	30.	31. 