

# TRINITY NEWS

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## FEBRUARY 2014

Trinity Reformed Church  
North Plainfield, N.J. 07063  
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Members & Friends,

Is it possible to think of the month of February and not think about Valentine's Day? I don't know, but I do know that there are more things that happen in February besides Valentine's Day! For example, on Sunday February 2<sup>nd</sup>, we plan on installing our new elders and deacons, followed by a Consistory meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Monday February 17<sup>th</sup>, most of the kids have off from school for President's Day (there used to be two February holidays; one for Lincoln's birthday, the other for Washington's birthday, but the two are combined now). Our elders are scheduled to have one of their stated meetings after church on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> (they are required to meet at least four times each year.)

February is also Black History Month, a month in which we consider and appreciate all the contributions to our lives and culture that have been made by people of color. Crispus Attucks, a hero of the Boston Massacre and the first American killed by the British in the Revolutionary War was Black. We remember George Washington Carver for his work with peanuts, but did you realize that African American inventors patented devices and instruments integral to our daily life such as the ironing board, the air conditioner, the cellular phone as well as peanut butter? Black scientists and doctors have also contributed to fields such as agricultural science, medicine, mathematics and physics.

While we certainly are not proud of the legacy of slavery and racial discrimination that was an undeniable part of the early history of our country, we can rejoice in the progress that has been made. We can also appreciate the fact that, without Black Americans, there would be no America, at least not the America we know and love! And we can commit ourselves to a future freed from racism.

Grace & Peace,  
- Pastor Scott

In the month of December we had sermons on the following topics;

*12/1/13 –The Non-Signs of the Second Coming (Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44)*

Every few years or so some Christian “scholar” hits the headlines by setting a date for the second coming—and selling a bundle of books in the process. For every person who makes a “sure” prediction, dozens of others point out “signs” that the end is near. But Jesus said that the coming of the Son of Man will be “as the days of Noah...eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage” (vv. 37-38). What could be more normal than that? The lesson: instead of being obsessed with signs, simply “be ready” (v. 44).

*12/8/13–The Importance of Repentance (Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-12)*

In an age when image is everything, when lawyers advise their clients to say nothing, when people own up only to “poor choices” or “mistakes,” the exhortation of John the Baptist to “repent” (v. 2) and “bear fruit worthy of repentance” (v. 8) seems rather quaint. Avoiding responsibility and living in self-denial may make us more comfortable, but the words of the Baptizer ought to bring us back to reality: “the axe is lying at the root of the trees” (v. 10). Healing and restoration will take place only when preceded by repentance.

*12/15/13 –A Critical Question (Isaiah 35:1-10, Matthew 11:2-11)*

John the Baptist, despite boldly proclaiming the coming of the Messiah, still had lingering doubts: “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” (v. 3). Concerning this question, we can draw two important observations: 1) even great saints can have doubts, and 2) the identity of Christ is a critical issue that each of us must pursue until we answer it to our satisfaction.

*12/22/13 –The Significant Saviorhood of Jesus (Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25)*

The angel was specific about the nature of the saviorhood of the Child who was to be born of Mary. Jesus was sent by God, not to save us from failure, or from poverty, or from addiction, or from lack of self-realization. All these may, in fact, be true, because the saving work of Christ has many significant and positive side-effects. But first and foremost, Jesus—as his name implies— came to save us from our sins. Why is this so important? Because sin, despite being regarded as a quaint and outdated concept, is the most serious and significant factor in human misery and tragedy, destroying our relationship with God, our fellow human beings, and ourselves.

*12/24/13 – A Time To Ponder & Praise (Luke 2:1-20)*

Each year at Christmas, we have the opportunity to ponder all that God has done in sending us Jesus as our savior as Mary did, and to praise God’s name as the shepherds did.

*12/29/13 – Jesus The Refugee (Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23)*

In our age of millions of refugees, from Darfur to Iraq to Syria and many points between, it may be significant to note that Jesus and his family were also refugees. They, too, were homeless. They, too, were separated from family and friends. They, too, in all probability, lived in poverty. They, too, were the victims of a paranoid and heartless tyrant who placed little value on human life.



BROEK CIRCLE - will meet on Tuesday, February 11th, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Betty Jane Tingley. Barbara Hildebrant, Hostess.

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BROEK COOKS - will have Creamy Potato and Chicken Gumbo Soups available on Sunday, March 9th. An order form is on the hall bulletin board.

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JACOBA CIRCLE - meeting to be announced.

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# THANK YOU

Thanks to all who participated in Jacoba Circle's Christmas Pet Drive.

We were able to give food, supplies and \$250 to the Plainfield Humane Society.

Deena Z.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR March News

Wednesday, February 12th



FEBRUARY, 2014

- 14. Steven Zarnowski
- 15. Joanne Nuber
- 19. Jim Beil

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Please remember these members and friends in your prayers.

- Bunny & Don Adams
- Elaine Conway
- The Cornelia Family
- Trinity's Shut Ins
- Our U.S. Servicemen and Women
- Denis O'Hara
- The Roane Family
- The Zarnowski Family

# Prayer List

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"In memoriam"

Norma Cornelia  
at rest, January 6, 2014

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## AT DAY'S END

Is anybody happier because you passed his way?

Does anyone remember that you spoke to him today?

The day is almost over, and its tolling time is through;

Is there anyone to utter now a kindly word of you?

Can you say tonight, in parting with the day that's slipping fast,

That you helped a single person of the many that you passed?

Is a single heart rejoicing over what you did or said?

Did you waste the day, or lose it? Was it well or poorly spent?

Did you leave a trail of kindness, or a scar of discontent?

As you close your eyes in slumber, do you think that God will say,

"You have earned one more tomorrow by the work you did today"?

-John Hall



# FEBRUARY

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

1.

EVERY SUNDAY

Worship - 10:00 a.m.

2.	3. Consistory 7:30 pm	4.	5. Bible Study 7:30 pm	6. Choir 7:30	7.	8.
9.	10.	11. Broek 1 pm	12. *** NEWSLETTER Deadline Bible Study 7:30 pm	13. Choir 7:30	14. 	15.
16.	17.	18.	19. Bible Study 7:30 pm	20. Choir 7:30	21.	22.
23.	24.	25.	26. Bible Study &:30 pm	27. Choir 7:30	28.	