

# THE KERK

APRIL 2011

VOL. 45, NO. 4

## *From the Interim Minister's Desk*

Dear Friends of St. John's,

This was not the "Florida Vacation" I intended, but I am deeply grateful for your wonderful thoughts, cards and prayers. Day by day I am getting stronger and I am looking forward to being back with you on April 3rd, Communion Sunday. Many people have offered to help ease me back into the regular schedule.

While I have been gone I have been deeply impressed with how well everyone has carried on all of the Church activities without a bit of hesitation. Compared to a number of churches I have known, the ministry through various organizations of the Church has been outstanding. Congratulations are in order to the members of the staff and Consistory as well as members of the congregation who have taken responsibility for a segment of the ministry at St. John's.

The Season of Lent is upon us. It is the time for spiritual preparation for the events of Holy Week. I am personally looking forward to celebrating the events of that sacred week. Our specials services begin on Palm Sunday, April 17th, in which we mark the Triumphal Entry into the holy city of Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday, April 21st, 7:00 p.m., we will remember together the Last Supper and the Crucifixion of Jesus as we celebrate Communion and the Tenebrae Service, which reminds us of the gathering shadows about the cross on which he died.

Easter Sunday, April 24th begins with the Sunrise Service, 6:30 a.m. at the Blithewood Sunken Garden on the Bard College Campus. This early morning service will be followed by an Easter breakfast here at St. John's. Of course, you would not want to miss the joyous celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord at our 9:15 and 11 a.m. services. The choir and other special music is being planned for this special time.

Please invite family and friends to these wonderful opportunities to share in the central event of our Christian Faith, the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I'll see you there.

Yours in the service of Christ,

Pastor Dave

## DESIREE'S DESK FORGIVENESS WORKS LIKE AN ERASER

In the Communicants Class we have talked a lot about God forgiving our sins. I thought of our Communicants when I read the March 6, 2011 selection in The Upper Room. It addressed the idea of "a clean slate". The writer, William Louis Dike, dreamed about God asking him to write his sins on a chalkboard. As soon as he could write them down, God erased them. This is a great way for us, the Communicants and the Sunday School children to understand how quickly God can forgive our sins.

The scripture verse that came to William as he woke up came from 2 Corinthians 5:17, "If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! (NRSV).

Where we often fall short is going to God to confess our sins. I know that once a week, during the prayer of confession on Sunday morning worship, is not sufficient for me. I sin all week long, sometimes in ways I am not even aware until I see the consequences of my behavior.

The Catholic Church has a visible, physical way to confess, calling its members to the confessional. Now Protestants don't believe that we need to follow this custom, but it doesn't let us off the hook any less. Scripture even tells us that we aren't even supposed to take communion if we have sinned against a neighbor and need to apologize, confess, or make restitution.

During this season of Lent, let us make it a daily practice to come to God with our sins, our shortcomings, or mistakes, and our need for forgiveness. Be purposeful about

setting aside time to do this. It may be upon waking, at bedtime, during prayers at your evening meal. Just do it. Then accept that you are made new through the forgiveness and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

*Desiree Albizu,  
Associate in Ministry in Christian Education*

I hope that the daily readings in At Home with the Word are showing you anew Bible passages that speak to you in different ways as you read. Copies are still available on the table in the fellowship hall. It's never too late to begin reading along with the rest of the congregation.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Sunday, March 27 we held our spring bake sale during coffee hour. Thank you to the Sunday School families who provided baked goods and to those who shopped at our table in support. Proceeds will go to a mission project.

The Sunday School staff met on March 29 for a short training and to prepare for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter.

Children's Day will be June 12 at the 9:15 a.m. worship service. Please make every effort to allow your child(ren) to be there to participate. It is also the day of the Church Picnic at Wilcox Park.

Friends are welcome every Sunday, so don't hesitate to ask your friends and neighbors to join us.



## EMMAUS ROAD YOUTH MINISTRY SALES TO SUPPORT MISSION TRIP

Gertrude Hawk chocolate sales end April 3 in order for us to get those delicious candies back to you in time for Easter baskets.

The Flower Power sales of bulbs and perennial plants will end April 17. Orders are shipped directly to your home. It is our first time using this company so please give us your feedback whether or not you were pleased with your order.

Mother's Day flower sales will begin April 17. Thank you to the Totmans and Daisy Hill Farm for providing us with flowers again this spring. Look for the order form in the bulletin or on the table in the fellowship hall.

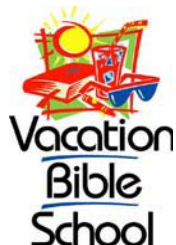
As you can see, we are busy raising funds for our Workcamp this summer. Please do not feel that you must support every or any fundraiser, especially if you cannot afford it. Your prayers for our efforts will be just as much help.

The middle schoolers are invited to join us at Ro-Lin Lanes to bowl on Sunday, May 1 at 1 p.m. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall, or let Wendy Walrath or Desiree Albizu know of your students intention to attend. Thank you.

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS INSIDE OUT & UPSIDE DOWN

The Red Hook Area Council of Churches will sponsor Vacation Bible School August 15-19, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, here at St. John's. Children ages 4 through sixth grade are invited to attend. Older children are always welcome to lend a hand.



This will be our third year in a row hosting. The other churches are finding preschools, who use their buildings, are continuing summer programs during the week VBS runs.

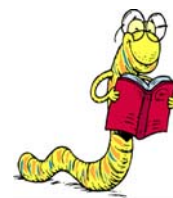
We will be using curriculum from Standard Publishing, with its excellent music and visuals. This year's theme is "Inside Out & Upside Down on Main Street: Where Jesus Makes a Difference Every Day." Five of Jesus' parables will help the children learn about gratitude, grace, compassion, faithfulness, and forgiveness.

Please prayerfully consider being a teacher or an assistant, or someone to lead music or recreation, or to help with snacks. If you are available and would like more information, contact Desiree Albizu, (518) 537-4221 or [albizu@valstar.net](mailto:albizu@valstar.net). We ask that you keep this ministry in prayer as we seek to fill these vital positions, and prepare to lead the little ones to Jesus.

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## MONDAY NIGHT BOOK LOVERS' CLUB

The Book Lovers' Club will meet Monday, April 18 at 10:30 a.m. in the Associates' office. The selection will be The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon. This activity is open to all and the group welcomes suggestions for future selections.



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## RCA SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS

Openings are filling up fast for both Camp Fowler in Speculator, NY and the Warwick Camp and Conference Center, in Warwick, NY, RCA-funded summer camps. Brochures are available on the table in the fellowship hall.

The last year we had ten students attend the RCA summer camps. They return

excited, having made new friends in a Christian setting, and eager to go and be fed by God's word again this summer.

If you would like a brochure, more information about either camp, or financial assistance, please contact Desiree Albizu, at [albizu@valstar.net](mailto:albizu@valstar.net) or (518) 537-4221. Both camps have websites, too. Do not hesitate to visit them if you have school age children.

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### **THE GOSPEL OF JOHN**

The Gospel of John will be performed on April 18 at 7 p.m. at the Rhinebeck Performing Arts Center. It is sponsored by the Lutheran Parish of Northern Dutchess County. Tickets are \$20. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Bonnie Reyer at 876-0782, Monica Gabryszewski at 914-475-6613, or Kathy Rector at 518-672-7688. Come at the start of Holy Week to hear the words and see the actors play out the Gospel of John. Space is limited so reserve your tickets now.

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### **DATE FOR CHURCH PICNIC**

The annual Church Picnic will take place Sunday, June 12 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at Wilcox Park. Please mark it on your calendars now so you may attend.

## **SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING AND SERVING COURSES – Last chance to sign up!**

### **An Introduction and Survey of the New Testament**

#### **(General Interest, Associate in Ministry & Preaching Elder requirement)**

Instructor: The Rev. Luis Perez  
Location: The Reformed Church, 6863 Mill Street, Rhinebeck  
Dates: Wednesdays, April 6, 13, 27, May 4, 11, 18, 7-10 p.m.  
Tuition: \$100, plus books and materials

This course is a survey of the books that are the foundation of Christianity, from Matthew to Revelation, and examines the origins, themes, and philosophy of the early church.

### **No Piles of Electrons: An Introduction to Managing Electronic Records (E-Records)**

Instructor: Russell Gasero, RCA Archivist  
Date: Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Location: Walkkill Reformed Church, 45 Bridge Street, Walkkill, NY  
Tuition: \$20 per church

This half-day session will provide an overview of the world of e-records: file formats, preservation issues, and management issues. The management of e-records from an administrative, legal, and financial perspective will be the focus. A start at tackling the overwhelming variety of e-mails and attachments will be made as well as some discussion about how to organize and preserve that data so that it will be available when you need it. Web sites for further information and readings will be provided as well as a means of sharing and communicating our needs as a church community.

Scholarships are available. Please contact the Registrar, Desiree Albizu at [albizu@valstar.net](mailto:albizu@valstar.net) or 518-537-4221.

## MISSION OF THE MONTH APRIL

This month we are supporting a 'new to us' organization: ALBANY TEEN CHALLENGE. Part of NY Teen Challenge, Albany Teen Challenge has a 14 month residential program for young people who are caught in the cycle of drug and alcohol abuse and other problems that control their lives.

Their mission is "to help people become mentally-sound, emotionally-balanced, socially-adjusted, physically-well and spiritually alive." Their philosophy is: "that God can provide the total cure for the whole person."

Since 1958 their cure rate has been 75%. That's  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the people entering the program who are living a hellish existence, a life so full of pain and suffering that we can't even imagine, come out as whole, healed, productive people who are able to reflect the love of God to others around them.

The residential program is divided into 4 phases.

*Crisis Intervention*- the young men and women go through withdrawal and are introduced to the love of God.

Biblical Christian disciplines and principles of life are imparted in their new faith within a safe, home-life environment.

*Induction Restoration*-students are provided with "power tools" for change.

They learn to live with others in love and "LIGHT" (living in group harmony through truth).

*Training Development*-Students go through character studies and learn social life skills. They receive vocational training.

*Re-Entry Development*-The students then serve an internship as a group leader, continue their education or seek employment while living in the residential home thus insuring accountability.

Teens and young people are really struggling today as just living seems to be getting harder and harder. This wonderful organization helps them heal and live with Gods love and power.

As their slogan says: "RESTORING  
BROKEN LIVES FULFILLING DREAMS"

Please prayerfully consider supporting this organization, truly one that helps the least of these. God bless you.

Laurie DeCiutiis  
Mission and Outreach

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## SWEATERS FOR THE BAPTIST HOME RESIDENTS

It is time to sort through your sweaters again. If you have machine washable cardigans that are wearable but you don't want any more, consider bringing them in for the residents of the Baptist Home who don't have family to bring them new clothes. Their sweaters are worn year round – they get cold from the air conditioning. Because all their clothes are washed in hot water, wool, rayon, and sequined sweaters don't work; give those sweaters, and any pullovers, to the rummage sale. There will be a bin in the education wing hallway for the Baptist Home collection.



**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Palm Sunday:** April 17, services at 9:15 and 11 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service:** April 21, 7:30 p.m.

**Good Friday:** Showing the film, The Passion of the Christ, at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. with discussion after. Feel free to bring your lunch to the 10 a.m. showing and child care will be available at 7:30 p.m.

**Easter Sunday:** April 24, 6:30 a.m. the Sunrise Service at Blithewood Gardens at Bard College with breakfast to follow here at St. John's. Worship services at 9:15 and 11 a.m.

**April Helpers**

**Flowers:** If you would like to place memorial or special remembrance flowers in the Church, please sign the Flower Chart in the narthex, complete a form and leave in the slot AND call April Flower Chairs, Laurie DeCiutiis, 758-0643 or Trisha Finch, 758-0447.

**Greeters & Ushers:** If you cannot serve on the Sunday assigned, please phone, Captain Peter Lawson, 758-8512

**April 3**

Greeters: Adam and Sue Balogh  
 Ushers: John and Christina Staubi  
 Shepherd:  
 Nursery: Kate Peterson

**April 10**

Greeters: Hop and Cathy Michael  
 Ushers: Peter and Janis Lawson  
 Nursery: Denise Gilhooly-Partrick

**April 17**

Greeters: Mary Ellen Mann and Mary Hennessy  
 Ushers: Don and Joy Peterson  
 Shepherd:

Nursery: Nicole Jensen

**April 21 Maundy Thursday**

Greeters: Bruce and Karen McCord

**April 24**

Greeters: Laurie DeCiutiis and JoAnn Fisher  
 Ushers: Linda and Doug Search  
 Nursery:

**SCUDDER CIRCLE NEWS**

Many, many thanks to the many, many good cooks who made the delicious soups for our Soup Sales in January, February and March. And to the many, many loyal customers who bought the soups! With the proceeds from the soup sales, we are able to support Mission of the Month and other mission projects. We have also donated money to help pay for the new fans in the sanctuary. Soup sales are a big part of our budget, and we really appreciate the participation of so many of you. At our February meeting, Marie Votava presented a program which helped us think about Lent in different ways.

All women of St. John's are considered to be members of Scudder Circle, and are welcome to attend any meeting. Please consider coming to our meeting on April 7, when Bev Kipp will speak to us about "Your Energy and You". We'll meet at 1 pm, in the fellowship hall. As always, refreshments will be served!

**THE TRUTH PROJECT**

The Truth Project is continuing to meet, now on Tuesday, 7:15 p.m. at the home of Jim and Mary Belliveau.



**Red Roses and Thank You to:**

**The Pot Roast Dinner Committee** for all their hard work;

**Cary Robinson and John Roberts** for folding bulletins;

**Jane Bier, Don and Joy Peterson** for putting together the March Kerk;

**Todd Abrahams** for his fast service in fixing the men's room toilet;

**Cary Robinson** for working so hard on that Annual Report;

**Glenn Countryman** for tightening up the fasteners holding the choir loft wall in place.

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"Once again, St. John's Pot Roast Dinner was a success! It cannot happen without everyone who puts their time, effort and love into it. A very big Thank You to you all and especially to our young people in training. Once again compliments on your manors and teamwork, you put smiles on our faces."

The Pot Roast Dinner Committee

A big thank you sent out to those who donated to our Pot Roast "Adopt-A-Dinner". We served 22 people who were in need of a hot meal. We can make a difference!

Vickie Young, Elder of Fellowship

**TREASURER'S REPORT & STEWARDSHIP**

**Treasurer's Report – General Fund**

February Receipts	\$16,318
February Expenses	<u>\$17,327</u>
February Balance	(\$1,009)

Year to Date Receipts	\$33,324
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$40,852</u>
Year to Date Balance	(\$7,528)

Donations to the Mission-of-the-Month  
Feb: Doug Leonard – Oman = **\$973**

**ADOPT-A-COST**

If you would like to adopt one of the costs listed below, make your check payable to St. John's Reformed Church, indicating which item you are adopting, and place in the Sunday offering plate or mail to the Church Office. Adopted items will be shown in the following month's *Kerk* and more adoptable items will be offered. Items are:

- ~~1.50 gallons of fuel oil @ \$2.34 = \$117~~
- Case of hot cups \$84
- Case of paper towels \$30
- Evangelism postcards \$370.40
- Tune sanctuary piano \$95
- Exterior pest treatment (Church & parsonage) \$280
- Communicant Class Handbooks \$212.33
- Search Committee Handbooks 245.67
- One month computer support \$88
- 1 share to repair Parsonage Hallway Ceiling (10 shares needed) \$100 each  
**adopted \$200**
- Case of toilet paper \$45
- Case of paper plates \$11
- ~~Handbell Music \$70.62~~ **adopted**
- 2 New Ceiling Fans and Controls for Sanctuary, \$230.47 each, totaling \$460.94 **adopted \$115.25**
- Box of offering envelopes \$3.76
- Denominational Assessment \$89.03 per person – yearly bill: \$14, 956.21 (a total of **\$1784.09** has been received to date)

**PROPERTY COMMITTEE  
NEWS & EVENTS**

The Property Committee would like to make you aware of two important events scheduled this spring.

**SPRING CLEANUP DAY  
SATURDAY, APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 AM**

Because this is also the date of the Rummage Sale, the emphasis will be on out-door projects. Jack Doyle will again coordinate the event, directing volunteers to work groups. Following is a (not all inclusive) list of projects and tasks:

1. Raking church, parsonage and cemetery grounds
2. Winter sand and gravel removal from lawns, walks, and drives
3. Preparing beds and foundation plantings, pruning shrubs and bushes
4. Brush cutting along cemetery borders and tailings pile
5. Brush cutting along Route 9
6. Repair, straighten and reset cemetery stones
7. Removal of air conditioner covers

Please bring any tools required for the projects you may be doing (rakes, shovels, brooms, pruning shears, loppers, saws, level, bar, wooden blocks). If you know of a project that needs to be done, come prepared to do it. Come and work for as long as you are able. All efforts and fellowship are appreciated.

**PARSONAGE PORCH/FOUNDATION  
REPAIR  
MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 9:00 AM**

The Property Committee plans to start the parsonage repair project immediately

after the May Men's Breakfast. The project is comprised of the following 5 steps:

1. The porch roof will be braced and the lower portion of the porch will be removed, leaving the sound upper portions of the 6 support posts with the roof.
2. After porch removal there will be better access to the northwest and southwest foundation areas that need repair. The repair options will vary depending on the situation uncovered.
3. Six pressure treated support posts will be set 4 feet deep and spliced into the respective upper post segments.
4. A new porch deck will be constructed.
5. A rail will be placed around the porch deck (safety) along with new steps and hand-rail.

The approximate work time is estimated to be five Saturdays, possibly every other, starting May 7<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy this project. People will be needed to work (with talent or enthusiasm or both). If you aren't able to work, come enjoy the event and cheer on the crew. Another way to be involved is financial. This project will be financed entirely outside of the annual budget with gifts marked for parsonage repairs. With God's help and your support, we can make the parsonage a more attractive home for our new pastor.

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**BIRTHS**

Congratulations to Eric and Anna Hineman on the birth of their son, **Luke Christian** on March 9. Luke joins big sister Elsa who will be two in April!



## SPRING RUMMAGE SALE

APRIL 14 – 16

Now that spring is here – so is the time for spring cleaning. Now is the time to start thinking about our **Spring Rummage Sale**.

We do ask that your donations be clean spring and summer clothes, coats and shoes. Any blankets, quilts or spreads should be labeled (twin, full, queen). For curtains and drapes, please label their sizes and if possible bundle them together. Household items are also greatly appreciated. Small, working appliances are acceptable and books are great too! Due to limited space, we **CANNOT** accept toys, computers, large appliances, TV's, records, furniture, bikes or large exercise equipment. **You may start leaving donations** in the fellowship hall Sunday afternoon, **April 10 through Wednesday, April 13**.

**The sale hours are:**

**Thurs. April 14, 6 -8 p.m. Fri. April 15, 1-4 p.m. Sat. April 16, 9-noon.** Saturday is Bag Day so whatever fits in a grocery bag is \$5. (What a deal!)

To make this Rummage Sale a success **We Need Help!!!!** Can you help set up tables, sort incoming donations Monday – Wednesday, during sale hours, Saturday for cleanup? Any time during the week help is needed, even an hour will help. Many hands do make a difference. We thank you all for your continued help and support.

The Arts and Crafts Group

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## ASSOCIATES MUSINGS

I have been very busy since the last Kerk. I have done 2 services at the Livingston Hills Nursing Home, 3 services at the Livingston Memorial Chapel and one service each at St. Johns and the High Falls Community Church. I also helped with the Ash Wednesday service here at St. Johns.

Have you noticed that the St. Johns' version of the Lord's Prayer uses trespasses instead of debts as most Reformed Churches do? There have been questions as to why we

use trespasses by various visitors. It was decided many years ago to use trespasses in an effort to be ecumenical and open to visitors. Both debts and trespasses are faithful to the words Christ used when he taught the disciples the Lord's Prayer. Commentators have said that "debts" are used in the prayer which comes out of the Calvinist Presbyterian and Reformed tradition. In Holland and Scotland, countries of small shopkeepers, debt was a word they understood and cared about. By the same token, trespasses was the word used by English churches. The English were landowners who understood what a trespass on your property meant.

Desiree and I are leading the confirmation class. After some initial growing pains on the part of teachers and students, we are having some very good conversations about the questions of our faith. Beverly Kipp and Bruce Troy, from the funeral home in town, gave an excellent lecture on death and the questions which surround death. James Walrath and Terry Laibach graciously came and described their walks of faith. I am excited to see the growth in these wonderful young men and women. Thank you for the help and prayers we have been given so far. Please continue your prayers; they are much appreciated.

Bible Study continues every Tuesday morning from 10:15 to 11:15; join us any time. We are discussing the weekly Lectionary passages.

Easter is coming. We are planning to have the usual sunrise service at Bard's Blithewood at 6:30 a.m. with breakfast at our Church to follow (thank you Ellen Nicholas and crew). There will be a Maundy Thursday service. We are planning to show Mel Gibson's THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST on Good Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 and from 7 to 9 p.m. (child care provided). The Gibson film is very powerful and is rated R for the violence done to our Savior; parents should be very careful in deciding if they want to allow their children to see this film.

Lent is the church's 40 day period of reflection and discipline leading up to Easter. Prayer, fasting, worship and scripture are all traditional aspects of this period of preparation. It is my prayer that you will experience the power and wonder of God in

the preparation of Lent and the glory of Easter. The Lectionary scriptures are designed to help you in your Lenten walk.  
John Roberts

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### **WORKCAMPERS MEETING**

There will be a Workcampers and parents meeting on Sunday, May 1 at 10:30 a.m. in room 4 of the education wing. Registration packets will be handed out then, and we will go over the Code of Conduct as directed by Group Cares (formerly Group Workcamps Foundation). Please do your best to attend. We are not planning many meetings and each one will be important. Be ready to provide your T-shirt size so we can get shirts ordered for the mission trip.

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### **CLASSIS ELECTS JOHN ROBERTS THEIR NEW OMBUDSMAN**

At the March 15 meeting of the Mid-Hudson Classis, Associate in Ministry and Preaching Elder John Roberts was nominated and elected the Ombudsman. He will be a liaison between churches undergoing problems and Classis. The Church Life Committee came to the meeting with this recommendation and John was elected unanimously. Congratulations to him as he begins to serve the Reformed Churches in the Dutchess and Ulster Counties in this new role.

General Secretary Wes Grandberg Michaelson preached the sermon in our opening worship service and then there was a short period of where representatives to Classis could ask him questions about his work and the denomination. In Wes' sermon he called those present to four tasks:

- 1) Be purposeful about coming away to listen to the Lord speaking to us.
- 2) Know that it's costly to follow Christ, but worth our efforts.
- 3) Be ready and willing to do our best in service to the Lord, and then relinquish them to God.
- 4) Listen and receive the voices of all who

God has called, i.e. the newcomers who enter our church, the fresh voices to a committee or to Consistory.

During the Q & A session he also called us to minister to those 30 years of age and under, stating that we need to be creative in our efforts to reach them. Think in terms of mission involvement. The latest statistics he quoted were that 27% of people this age have no religious affiliation.

Classis voted on nine overtures that will be discussed at General Synod in June, 16-21. The majority of them passed as recommended by the subcommittee that studied them in depth.

The Classis agreed to send an overture to General Synod identical to that of the Passaic Valley Classis about the RCA Board of Benefits Service that has required us to carry health insurance that previously was not adequate for our minister's needs at St. John's. Our Church opted out of this program, but then was expected to pay for it or be considered remiss.

With regrets Classis dissolved the relationship with the Reformed Church of Krumville, closing their doors for ministry in the RCA. The church was relying on a Preaching Elder to lead worship, and the congregation was down to only a couple people in worship, all elderly. It was a sad moment, but the church could no longer be financially responsible for themselves.

Elections were held for officers, and all current officers were re-elected, as is often the case after one year. Next year their terms will be complete, and nominations will be accepted from the floor and a full election held.

The Rev. Paul Ruter was re-admitted as Minister of Word and Sacrament to the Mid-Hudson Classis. He has served in a number of Reformed Churches, including one previously within our Classis. He is now serving at the Grahamsville Reformed Church.



**Sympathy to:**

Mike Tuggle and family on the death of his uncle, **Gordon Owen**;

the family and friends of **Robert Picciuolo, Sr.** who died March 5;

the family and friends of **Elena Lonning** who died March 10. Elena participated in the Senior Exercise and Brain Games programs here at St. John's.

Russell Wright and family due to the death of his father, **Robert Wright**, on March 13;

Stephanie (Jim) Josefowicz and family due to the death of her father, **Gerald Brewer**, on March 14;

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**Newsletter Deadline**

Deadline for the **May** Kerk is **April 10**.

Personal ads of no more than 3 lines will be accepted for \$1 per issue.

Business ads in the form of a business card to be photocopied will cost \$5 per issue

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Plumbing, Heating and Repairs

Todd Abrahams Plumbing  
235 Fraleigh Lane  
Red Hook, NY 12571

Business & Fax 758-3867 Cell 389-2661



If you would like to place flowering plants in the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, please complete this form with your payment and put it in the offering plate.

**Form & payment must be returned no later than Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>!**

I would like to order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Lily @ \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinth @ \$9

\_\_\_\_\_ Tulips @ \$9

Total payment \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other dedication

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given by

\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: St. John's Reformed Church earmarked Easter Flowers.

If mailing, please send completed form and payment to:

St. John's Reformed Church  
126 Old Post Road North  
Red Hook, NY 12571

## MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER SALES

The Emmaus Road Youth Ministry is selling flowers for Mother's Day as a fundraiser for the mission trips.

If you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 8, in honor of or in memory of a woman you know, please complete the form on the reverse side. You may pick up your plant(s) after the 11 a.m. worship service that day.

We are also offering flowers to those who would like to purchase and take them to loved ones earlier. You may pick them up on Friday, May 6 between 3-5 p.m. Just indicate your intent on the back of this form.

Sample plants will be on display in the Fellowship Hall again.

Flowers are graciously provided by Totman's Daisy Hill Farm.

\_\_\_\_\_ 8" Dish Garden of mixed flowering annual plants. \$10

\_\_\_\_\_ Larger Dish Garden of mixed flowering

annual plants. \$12

\_\_\_\_\_ 8" Potted Geranium \$15

**(Circle color choice: red -pink- salmon)**

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Ivy Geranium Basket \$25

**(Circle color choice: purple- pink-red)**

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Petunia Basket \$25

**(Circle color choice: -purple-pink-white)**

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Fuschia Basket \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Scaevola Basket \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Impatiens Basket \$25

\_\_\_\_\_ 12" Lobelia Basket \$25

Note: Limit four of any one color of basket. Quantities are limited, so order early. Some flowers may not be available in later weeks, and order forms will change from week to week. Baskets come with hanging wires.

Total Payment \_\_\_\_\_

Orders will be taken in fellowship hall during Coffee Hour April 24, & May 1. Please make checks payable to "Emmaus Road Youth Ministry".

**DEADLINE is Sunday, May 1.**

### WORDING FOR BULLETIN:

In memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Given by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my plant(s) after the 11 a.m. worship service on May 8.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please donate my plants.

**OR**

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my plant(s) on Friday, May 6, between 3-5 p.m.

Thank you for your order!

The Students and Advisors of the Emmaus Road Youth Ministry

# HEALTH MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances.* Thessalonians 5:17  
APRIL 2011

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## **Come One, Come ALL**

### **Join Us for a Lunch and Learn Seminar on EYE HEALTH**

Thursday, April 28, 2011

Lunch – 11:45 a.m.      Seminar – 12:30 p.m.

**with Dr. Alexandra Pappas, Ophthalmologist**

Dr. Pappas practices at Eye Associates in Red Hook.

Dr. Pappas is an Undergraduate of Colgate University, has her Masters in Physiology and Biophysics.

She's a graduate of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed her residency at St. Vincent's Catholic Medical Center in NYC.

Dr. Pappas also completed her Medical Retina Fellowship at NYU

#### **TOPICS:**

Vitamins  
Eye Drops  
Dry Eye  
Glaucoma

**Come learn about these topics and much more!!**

**Sign up sheets are located in the fellowship hall.**

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#### **Health Ministry Hours**

Office hours Tuesday 9AM – 3PM and Thursday 11AM – 1PM. Visitation as needed.

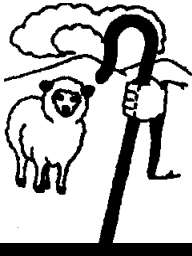
If you would like a visit, please call the Church office.

Contact Information: Coordinator – Beverly Kipp

Secretary/Program Coordinator – Jackie Fenaroli

Call Church office – 758-1184; e-mail Church office – [office@stjohnsreformed.org](mailto:office@stjohnsreformed.org)  
or Beverly home – [bkipp@frontiernet.net](mailto:bkipp@frontiernet.net); Jackie home – [jfenaroli63@gmail.com](mailto:jfenaroli63@gmail.com)

Watch the Kerk and Sunday bulletin for program related or last minute changes in schedule.



# The Shepherds Page

Shepherds  
Serving  
St. John's

April 2010

- Barbara Coe
  - Desiree Albizu
  - Jo Ann Fisher
  - Nancy Finkle
  - Denise Partrick
  - Amie Parker
  - Stanton Tremper
  - Joy Peterson
  - Diane Loughran
  - Eileen Zeliph
  - Linda Neilson
  - Carolyn Carr
  - Michael Carr
  - Marie Votava
  - Ruth Cole
  - Kristy Koerner
  - Barbara Gall
  - Barbara Spencer
  - Terry Laibach
  - Nancy Castillo
  - Wendy Walrath
  - Bruce Unson
  - Priscilla Tremper  
*Shepherd  
Coordinator*
- To Request a Shepherd**  
Call the Church Office 758-1184 or Priscilla Tremper 758-5657

*The gift of*

## H-O-P-E

Hope is a wonderful gift. God gave the world hope when he sent his son to die on the cross. When we receive Jesus into our hearts as our Lord and Savior we can have hope, no matter how bad our circumstances get, because we know we have eternal life

Hope is a different gift. It is truly a gift that keeps on giving. Each time we reach out to others in the name of Jesus, we give them hope. And each time we visit the hospital, write a note, make a phone call, or visit a family who is grieving we give them the gift of hope.

*By Else Rodland, Mt. Holly NJ  
Presbyterian Church*

## HOPE

### That won't Disappoint

Christian hope is not hope in the economy, or hope in the stock market or hope in technology or power. Christian hope is hope in Jesus Christ crucified risen and coming again.... Jesus Christ is Lord even if the stock market crashes and the economy collapses... if our government falls and our borders are threatened.

The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day he created spring



### Sometimes a Loud Shout is needed

Lets face it sometime we start the day with a black mood. Perhaps we did not sleep well, or we just don't feel well. And such a mood might even invade our spirit on a special day. Like Easter Sunday. A California Christian, Kerstin Easton confesses that was her dilemma one Easter morning.

She was slated to sing a solo. It was call "Morning Has Broken" but she felt more like she was still in the middle of the night. Nothing stirred within her. She even had a few words for God.

"C'mon God You're all powerful. Why don't you do something. Then her pastor cried out loudly, Easter! Easter! Easter! The nearby canyon seemed to echo the pastor's yell. It was enough to dissipate the black mood. Joy followed. A few minutes later a smile tugged at the corners of Kerstin's mouth as she sang "Morning has Broken" like the first morning.

### Shepherds Annual Luncheon Re-scheduled

The annual Shepherds Luncheon for their families has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 25, 2010, 12:30 pm in the fellowship hall. The luncheon is an opportunity for a light lunch, fellowship and entertainment. Shepherds will be sending RSVP invitations to families they care for.