



# CONTACT



Newsletter of the South Branch Reformed Church

February, 2012

## South Branch Reformed Church

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## From the Pastor...

The month of February is here - already! There are a number of things taking place during the month that deserve some special attention. Information can be found in the Newsletter and/or the Sunday Bulletin. I wanted, however, to take some time to highlight a few.



The second Family Fun Night will be on Friday, Feb. 3rd beginning at 7:00 PM. Our first gathering was great and we are looking forward to another fun

evening.

On Sunday, Feb. 5th, there are a number of different things taking place. First, it is Communion Sunday.

Second, since it is Super Bowl Sunday, I am encouraging everyone to wear their team jersey to church. We did this last year and it was fun to see the different teams represented. Remember, it doesn't have to be a football jersey!

Third, there will be no



Confirmation Class on Sunday, Feb. 5th due to those who will not be there

because of the Super Bowl. Parents of Confirmation students, please note this on your calendars.

There is much more planned and going on at SBRC. Be sure to watch the bulletin for more information.

In Christ's Service,

## Bible Study Opportunities!!!

Just a reminder that there are two opportunities at SBRC to participate in a Bible Study.

The **Monday Evening** group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7:00 PM in the Parlor. Currently we are studying: *Job*. This group

has 9 people attending and there is always room for more! Coffee is provided.

The **Reflections on Scripture** group meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM in the Parlor. Currently we are studying: *Gospel of*

*Luke*. This group has seen a significant decline, but we always welcome those able to attend.

Remember, no advanced degrees or knowledge required! Just a willingness to learn about God's Word.



## Note from the Treasurer...

### December 2011

The regular pledge receipts for December were \$8,855 (weekly average: \$2,464). This is the best month we have had since March 2009 and the 4th best month in the past 14 years. Also, for the year we received about \$2,300 more than last year. This is really great considering all the flood donations we received from the Congregation. We started the month \$1,613 in CE and ended the month at \$5,471. Unfortunately, however, most of the surplus this year was due to \$5,085 in memorial donations. Still, we would have made budget without those memorials. We have now ended the year in the black for the 4th time in 7 years. For the last 7 years we are down just \$2,384.

### Comparison

2011 Pledge Receipts: \$92,707 (wkly avg: \$1,783)

2010 Pledge Receipts: \$90,416 (wkly avg: \$1,739)

### Flood Report

As of Dec. 31st, the church has spent \$34,971 for flood related bills. At the same time the church has received \$32,869 in donations, which is really a blessing. In January we will need to spend \$4,570 to purchase the rest of the stainless steel counters and sinks and \$478 for tile to finish restoring the kitchen. As of mid-January 2012 we received \$3,000 from Reformed Church World Service (via the Regional Synod) for flood restoration. That means we are \$4,150 short as of this writing. (This does not include any losses by the Preschool.) We plan to "close" the books on the flood fund at the end of February. If you have not made a donation to the flood fund and would like to, or have made a donation but would like to make another, please do so by the end of February. We want to zero out this fund because we now have to focus on this year's capital projects, which are already appearing to be exceptional. In late December the parsonage roof leaked and damaged ceiling and wall plaster. We have contracted to have the roof replaced (\$6,400) and are getting bids to repair the plaster damage (~\$2,500).

## Sunday School News!!



The Children will be making Valentines for our "shut-ins" on February 5th. Please make sure your child can attend. Our shut-ins truly enjoy the cards are being remembered.



## 2012 Denominational Assessment

The 2012 Denominational Assessment is \$83.74 per member and the total for SBRC is \$8,122.78. All active members should have received a letter from Pastor Steve defining the Assessment along with an envelope. Additional envelopes are located at the hallway entrance to the Sanctuary. As always, if you have any questions about the Assessment, please speak with Pastor Steve.

## 2012 Church Dinners

At the December 2011 meeting of the Consistory, the following dates were set for the 2012 SBRC Dinners! Please be sure to mark these dates on your calendar so that you do not miss a wonderful meal and fellowship!

Jan. 28th - Ham Dinner

March 10th - Corned Beef Dinner

April 28th- Roast Beef Dinner

June 2nd - Chicken BBQ

Sept. 22nd - Ham Dinner

Nov. 10th - Roast Beef Dinner

Dec. 8th - Breakfast with Santa  
(proceeds benefit SBRC Preschool)

Sign-up sheets will be posted and tickets will be available a few weeks prior to each dinner!

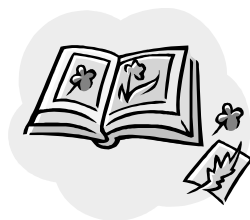
## Women's Group



Thank you to everyone who helped provide Christmas to children and coats, hats, and gloves to people in Hillsborough. Each year the need grows greater and it has been rewarding to know that the generosity of the members of SBRC is there to help meet this need.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 14th at 8:00 PM in the Church Parlor. All women are welcome!

If you need a ride, please speak with Betty York, Phyllis Zeban or Jannie Johnson!



## Lectionary Readings for February

Feb. 5th - Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm 147:1-11

1 Cor. 9:16-23

Mark 1:29-39

Feb. 12th - 2 Kings 5:1-14

Psalm 30

1 Cor. 9:24-27

Mark 1:40-45

Feb. 19th - 2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6

2 Cor. 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

Feb. 26th - Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

*"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"*  
2 Timothy 2:15, KJV



### **Early Warning!!!**

Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 11th. So, please be sure to mark this on your calendar(s) so that you don't forget to move your clock(s) ahead one hour!

## ***Food Bank***

Remember that the first Sunday of each month is Food Bank Sunday.



Items can be left in the boxes at the Sanctuary entrance and the hallway entrance.

## ***Flowers***

Just a reminder that if you have signed up for flowers in the Sanctuary on a particular Sunday, the cost is \$40.00. Make checks out to "SBRC" with "Flowers" in the memo section.



## ***Greeters & Coffee Hour***

Opportunities to Greet on Sunday and/or host Coffee Hour are still available! Please sign-up and help keep this important fellowship activity going strong!



## **Ash Wednesday Service**

Don't forget that on Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:00 PM SBRC will mark the beginning of the Lenten Season with our Annual Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary. This is the perfect opportunity to begin the Lenten Season in worship as we begin 40 days of preparation and reflection on the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ.



# Birthdays and Anniversaries



A very Happy Birthday and a blessed year ahead to those who are celebrating a birthday in February:

3 - Kyle Ammerlan and Debbie Sheldon

4 - Jaci Evers

6 - Brianna LiBrizzi, Kristi Kantorski and Frank Eckert

8 - Dick Coates and James Nunn

10 - Grace Coddington

12 - Jack Sarles

13 - Collin DePace

14 - Ashley LiBrizzi, Stacey Call and Tom Bernard

15 - Blair DeRoner

16 - Joan Kane

17 - Megan Sheridan and Pastor Steve Eckert

20 - Kristen Kletz

23 - Stephen Blyth

24 - Jim Ruocco

25 - Kay McCray

27 - Kacey Kowalchuk

Also, congratulations and Happy Anniversary to:

14 - Charles & Jane Huck

17 - Anthony & Dana DePace

20 - Tom & Patti Kletz  
Brent & Holly Kowalenko



## SBRC Choirs

Our Choirs always welcome new members! If you love to sing, we would love to have you join us!

Adult Choir rehearses Thursday evenings at 7:30 in the Parlor. No experience necessary! The Adult Choir sings



most Sundays from September through May.

Angel Choir is for preschoolers through 1st graders, and Junior Choir is for 2nd graders through 7th graders.

Both children's choirs rehearse after worship on



Sundays, (get a quick snack at Coffee Hour first), and sing in church about once a month from October through May.

Please see John Colaiacovo or Emily Windus with any questions.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
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# February 2012

Information for March's Newsletter is due on **Feb. 16th!** Leave your info. in the Church Office or e-mail to the Church at [newsletter@sbrchurch.org](mailto:newsletter@sbrchurch.org) with "Newsletter" in the subject line.

| Sun   | Mon                                  | Tue                                | Wed  | Thu                                       | Fri   | Sat  |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
|   |                                      |                                    | 1<br>Bible Study at 9:30 AM in the Parlor  | 2<br>Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 PM in Parlor | 3<br>Family Fun Night at 7:00 PM in the Dining Room | 4<br>Building Use in the Parlor from 10 AM to 2 PM |
| 5<br>Communion                                      | 6                                    | 7                                  | 8<br>Bible Study at 9:30 AM in the Parlor  | 9   | 10  | 11   |
| No Confirmation                                     |                                      |                                    |  | 9<br>Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 PM in Parlor |   |  |
| 12  | 13                                   | 14                                 | 15<br>Bible Study at 9:30 AM in the Parlor | 16  | 17  | 18   |
|   | Bible Study at 7:00 PM in the Parlor | Women's Group at 8:00 PM in Parlor | Consistory at 7:30 PM in the Parlor        | Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 PM in Parlor      |   |  |
| 19<br>Confirmation at 7:00 PM in the Pastor's Study | 20                                   | 21                                 | 22<br>Bible Study at 9:30 AM in the Parlor | 23  | 24  | 25   |
|   |                                      |                                    | Ash Wed. Service at 8:00 PM                | Choir Rehearsal at 7:30 PM in Parlor      |   |  |
| 26  | 27                                   | 28                                 | 29<br>Bible Study at 9:30 AM in the Parlor |   |   |  |
|   | Bible Study at 7:00 PM in the Parlor |                                    |  |   |   |  |

**CONTACT** - The Newsletter of  
The South Branch Reformed Church  
870 River Road  
Hillsborough, NJ 08844



*Share In God's Love*

Rev. Stephen Eckert ~ Pastor

Mr. John Colaiacovo ~ Music Director

Mrs. Erica Lenzo ~ Church Secretary

Mrs. Maureen DeMarco ~ Preschool Director

Mr. Mark Messineo ~ Sexton

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12-09-2011

HEY, YOU ARE RIGHT, I CAN TOTALLY SEE  
GOD IN NATURE IF I LOOK HARD ENOUGH

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