

RAM Reformed At Millstone

The historic church with the ageless mission:
Joyfully Embracing Christ and Community

From the **PASTOR**—

September 23, 2009

Dear Members and Friends,

How delightful welcoming the drop in evening temperatures! The cool of early fall is refreshing and invigorating. Already a local farm stand has pumpkins out. The season of the harvest is upon us.

Jesus used the harvest imagery to talk about his church. God is going to reap the faithful and take us into his “barn,” otherwise known to us as heaven.

Christians, however, are not to sit around and wait to be harvested. What are we to do? We are to do what all crops are to do – bear fruit!

The Christian’s first task is to worship. We gather for public worship to exalt God, “enthroning him on our praises,” as the Bible puts it. Our second task is to reach out with God’s love in word and deed. We are, in fact, to be witnesses to Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God.

As Sunday School gears up and our programs begin going full-bore, may we remember the reason for our being – service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May he give us energy, passion and renewed vigor and commitment as we follow him and do the most important work in all the world – the work of God in the church.

May God grant us the knowledge that he is using us and may the harvest be bountiful!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Fred



NEWS from our HRC COMMITTEES

EDUCATION

The Christian Education Committee is hosting a Special Lecture Series this fall. Please join us for a potluck supper and fellowship followed by an informative talk and discussion on topics of current interest.

Pot-luck supper at 6:00 PM and lecture at 7:00 PM

Sunday, October 4 - Rev. Brent Mulder "How to talk with someone in need"

At some point in our lives, we have all known someone who was going through a difficult time - the death of a loved one, divorce, or maybe the loss of a job. We don't always know how to provide support and reassurance. Brent will give guidance for these situations. Brent recently gave this talk to our Stephen Ministers and they felt that the Congregation would find the talk helpful as they had.

Sunday, October 25 - Mike Williams "Purple Petunias and the Treatment of Human Disease"

An unexpected result in an experiment with purple petunias created a mystery that puzzled scientists for years. The work to solve this mystery led to the discovery that, in every living cell, there is a defense against viruses that we never knew existed. This discovery could someday allow us to treat some of the most serious of human diseases - diseases that are difficult or impossible to treat now.

We will discuss the remarkable chemistry behind the discovery in terms that anyone can understand and how scientists can use their gifts and talents to help people through the discovery of new medicines.

Mike Williams

Sunday School: Attention Young Adults. The Young Adult Sunday School will be starting up again. There will be movie time with discussion and fellowship. Popcorn and fun included.

Chris Russoniello and Rae Quast

FELLOWSHIP

Millstone Cafe is reopened. Immediately after service come join us in Memorial Hall for a time of fellowship.

Maryanne Devoti and Susan Woods

Progressive Dinner: Please mark Saturday, October 17 on your calendar for our Progressive Dinner. Look for sign-ups in the vestibule. If you've never attended one, come to see what the fun is all about. If you have attended one, you know how much fun they can be. If you are interested in hosting one of the courses, sign-up in the vestibule. Thank you!

Maryanne Devoti and Susan Woods

OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Pictorial Directory: Once again, we will be sitting for photos October 8th, 9th and 10th, in order to create our church pictorial directory. The last one was in 2004, so we know that we may not look the same, especially our children! The more people who sit for photos by Olan Mills, the more credits we earn to use for activity pages in the directory and for printing of church brochures at a much reduced cost, so we are hoping that everyone that can participate will do so. There is absolutely no obligation to purchase and each family will receive an 8 x 10 portrait for free! See you there and be sure to smile!

Hillsborough Food Pantry: Continuing to look for supplies to be donated to the Hillsborough Food Pantry with items that they indicated that are most needed (toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap and laundry soap).

Name Badges: Don't forget to wear your name badges every week. If you did not receive yours yet, please ask the greeters when you come to worship on Sunday morning.

Jayne Czaplicki - Chair of Outreach

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The Scholarship Committee - College Connection

It must be Fall! The envelopes have been addressed and stamped. Pastor Fred has added his personal message to each College Connection student and the first mailing went on its way. HRC students both near and far will know that their Congregation is thinking of them as they pursue their studies this Fall. Have you signed your student up? Contact Tori Schryver and your student will receive a Halloween Greeting this month.

Tori Schryver

YOUTH GROUP

“Fright Fest” – On Friday, October 9th the Youth Group will be going to the Fright Fest at Dorney Park. Please meet at Memorial Hall at 5:30 p.m. We will return when the park closes. The rain date will be October 16th.

Kurt Benson and Lisa Medawar

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Fall Clean-Up Schedule

October 31 – Painting of the windows and doors in the sanctuary.

November 15 – “Blue Jean” Sunday. Work will begin at immediately

after worship. Please bring rakes, tarps, pickup trucks and leaf blowers.

Maryann Devoti and Tony Cole

MORE HRC ACTIVITIES, EVENTS & UPDATES

CROP WALK

HRC will be participating in the South Somerset County Crop Walk hosted by St. Charles Borromeo in Skillman on October 18, 2009. Registration begins at 1:00 PM with the walk to start at 1:30 PM. The Crop Walk has been organized to help stop hunger and poverty here in our community and around the world through self-help initiatives. One quarter of the funds raised this year will be split equally between the Food Bank of Somerset County and SHIP. Last year 365 walkers raised more than \$21,000 in the South Somerset County CROP Walk.

Please support our effort again this year by walking or sponsoring a walker. Contributions may be made by cash or check (payable to CWS/CROP). We will also be collecting jars of peanut butter for the Food Bank of Somerset County. In 2008 122 jars of peanut butter were collected. Contact Pam Williams for registration forms or more information Pam Williams.

Pam Williams

CHURCH TIME CARE

We are looking for volunteers to sign up for church time care. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule for every Sunday through September. If you are interested in being on the rotation or have any questions, please contact Margo Myer.

HRC BIBLE STUDIES

The Women's Bible Study will be the study called "Dust to Glory". It's a DVD study tour the highlights a book of the bible each week. We will meet Wednesday, October 14 and 28 from 7-8:30 pm in Memorial Hall. For questions, call Jayne Czaplicki.



The Wednesday Noon Bible Tour will meet on Wednesday, October 7, 14, 21 and 28.

The Tuesday Evening Bible Tours will meet on Tuesday, October 6 and 27 at 7:00.

STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING

The greatest blessings in life come when we give. In church we give much – our money, our time, our abilities. We sometimes refer to our giving as Time, Talent and Treasure. The truth is, the most valuable thing we give is “our-*selves!*”

God wants you, not just what you “have.” You are consecrated, first of all, by the Holy Spirit.

What we learn as we serve Jesus Christ, is the blessings come when we give. This is probably the most important thing our Stephen Ministers tell us. They all say, “I get more out of this than I give.”

What a wonderful discovery. What an amazing gift of God.

We are designed to give of ourselves. That is the model of Jesus Christ. He came to the world, not for himself, but for us. He lived his life giving himself away. He gave his body on the cross, broken for us. He gave his blood, poured out to wash away our sin.

We find true fulfillment and joy when we copy our model, Jesus. One very significant way of doing that is Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers provide one on one Christ-like caring to people who need someone to walk with them through a time of change or challenge in their lives.

In order to be a Stephen Minister, you must be interviewed and accepted by the Stephen Leaders, have fifty hours of training (scheduled based on the needs of the trainees), give one hour a week in caring for a Care Receiver, and attend semi-monthly Peer Supervision.

We are looking for Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders. Stephen Leaders attend a week-long training program run by the national Stephen Ministry organization and then come back and meet weekly to oversee the Stephen Ministry program. We currently have four Stephen Leaders. They would like to serve as Stephen Ministers and are hoping other will come along to replace them! Currently, all of our Stephen Ministers are linked up to Care Receivers.

Please take a moment right now to ask God if you are called to this powerful, dynamic and important service.

Pastor Fred for the Stephen Ministry Leadership Team
Pastor Fred, Fred Butler, Nancy Dawson, Jean Thomas and Joanie Panek

SPRUCE UP COMMITTEE

Check out the Memorial Hall bathrooms. WOW!!!! The 2 teams did a great job.

Maryanne Devoti

JUST A THOUGHT ...

When you get to your wit's end – you'll find God lives there.

Author unknown - Internet

ABOUT FOLKS WE KNOW ...

BAPTISM – Our congregation is pleased to have administered the Sacrament of Baptism to *Aiden Joseph McKenna* on September 13, 2009.

Aiden is the son of Pete and Jennifer McKenna.

WEDDING – On August 15th, Pastor Fred united Maryanna Miller and William Pierce in marriage. The ceremony was performed in New Hope, PA. The proud Mon and Grandmom are Anita-Daw-Pierce and Roberta Wynings.

COMING EVENTS for October

Sunday, October 4 – World Communion Sunday

8:15 a.m. Early Service – Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion/Welcome New Members

6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper

7:00 p.m. Rev. Brent Mulder - presentation

Thursday, October 8 – Saturday, October 10

Family Pictures for Pictorial Directory – Olan Mills

Friday, October 9

5:30 p.m. Youth Group “Fright Fest” trip

Sunday, October 11

IHN Walk

Tuesday, October 13

7:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Saturday, October 17

Progressive Dinner

Sunday, October 18

Crop Walk

Sunday, October 25

6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper

7:00 p.m. Mike Williams - presentation

Saturday, October 31

Painting of Sanctuary Windows and Doors

THE SHEPHERDING HAND OF GOD

I wish I could make it all new again; I can't. But God can. “He restores my soul,” wrote the shepherd.

God doesn't reform; he restores.

He doesn't camouflage the old; he restores the new.

The Master Builder will pull out the original plan and restore it.

He will restore the vigor, he will restore the energy.

He will restore the hope. He will restore the soul.

JUST A THOUGHT ...

If you worry, you didn't pray ... If you didn't pray, don't worry.

As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home everyday.

When we get tangled up in our problems, be still.

God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knots.

Author unknown - Internet

WORDS OF WISDOM



The book of Psalms is really the greatest hymnbook of worship music ever—poetry intended to be sung. We turn to the PSALMS for many reasons. Most of us will seek Psalms for examples of pure praise, or comfort in times of distress. We all know that they belong to the Old Testament, but we still can locate **CHRIST in the PSALMS**.

The primary meaning of the psalms is always to be sought first of all in their immediate, historical context. But this does not exhaust their significance.

No one can read Psalms without becoming aware that certain psalms and individual verses have a deeper, future significance beyond the simple meaning of the words. The Messiah is not mentioned by name, but his figure is foreshadowed, as later generations of Jews came to realize. And the New Testament writers are quick to apply these verses to Jesus as the prophesied Messiah.

- # Some psalms, particularly the 'royal psalms' (of which 2, 72, 110 are the most striking) picture an ideal divine king/priest/judge never fully realized in any actual king of Israel. Only the Messiah combines these roles in the endless, universal reign of peace and justice envisaged by the psalmists.
- # Other psalms depict human suffering in terms which seem far-fetched in relation to ordinary experience, but which proved an extraordinarily accurate description of the actual sufferings of Christ. Under God's inspiration, the psalmists chose words and pictures which were to take on a significance they can hardly have dreamed of. Psalm 22, the psalm Jesus quoted as he hung on the cross (verse 1: Matthew 27:46), is the most amazing example. Compare verse 16 with John 20:25; verse 18 with Mark 15:24. (See also Psalm 69:21 and Matthew 27:34, 48.)
- # There are many other verses in the psalms which New Testament writers apply to Jesus as Christ:
 - Psalm 2:7, 'You are my son': Acts 13:33
 - Psalm 8:6, 'everything under his feet': Hebrews 2:6-10
 - Psalm 16:10, 'not give me up to Sheol...': Acts 2:27; 13:35
 - Psalm 22:8, 'let him deliver him': Matthew 27:43
 - Psalm 40:7-8, 'I delight to do your will': Hebrews 10:7
 - Psalm 41:9, 'my close friend...has lifted his heel against me': John 13:18
 - Psalm 45:6, 'your throne endures for ever': Hebrews 1:8
 - Psalm 69:9, 'zeal for your house has consumed me': John 2:17
 - Psalm 110:4, 'a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek': Hebrews 7:17
 - Psalm 118:22, 'the stone which the builders rejected...': Matthew 21:42
 - Psalm 118:26, 'blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord': Matthew 21:9

Next time you pick up your Bible and open it to read something from Psalms, consider re-reading the passage with "New Testament eyes;" possibly you will also see **CHRIST in the PSALMS**.

Alexander, Pat and David. Zondervan Handbook to the Bible. Grand Rapids, 1999

DEADLINE

The **November 2009 RAM** submission deadline is **Thursday, October 15th**. Kindly send information, articles, etc for **November** events to Joanie Panek via email, regular mail or leave in church office on Joanie's desk.

HYMNS 4 HIM

O LOVE THAT WILL NOT LET ME GO

by George Matheson (1842-1906)

O Love that will not let me go, / I rest my weary soul in Thee;
I give Thee back the life I owe, / That in Thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that foll'west all my way, / I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, / That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, / I cannot close my heart to Thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, / And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, / I dare not ask to fly from Thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, / And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

George Matheson was only a teenager when he learned that his poor eyesight was deteriorating further. Not to be denied, he continued straightaway with his plans to enroll in Glasgow University, and his determination led to his graduating at age nineteen. But as he pursued graduate studies for Christian ministry he became totally blind. His sisters joined ranks beside him, learning Greek and Hebrew to assist him in his studies, and he pressed faithfully on. But his spirit collapsed when his fiancée, unwilling to be married to a blind man, broke their engagement and returned his ring.

George never married, and the pain of that rejection never totally left him. Years later, his sister came to him, announcing her engagement. He rejoiced with her, but his mind went back to his own heartache. He consoled himself in thinking of God's love which is never limited, never conditional, never withdrawn, and never uncertain. Out of this experience it is said that he wrote the hymn, *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*, on June 6, 1882.

George Matheson became a powerful and popular preacher pastoring in the Scottish village of Innellan. Despite his flourishing ministry, there was one winter's evening when the Sunday night crowd was miserably small. George had worked hard on his sermon, but the empty chairs nearly defeated him. Nevertheless he did his best, not knowing that in the congregation was a visitor for the large St. Bernard's Church in Edinburgh, which was seeking a pastor. As a result, in 1886, he was called to St. Bernard's where he became one of Scotland's favorite preachers.

"Make every occasion a great occasion," Matheson later said. "You can never tell when somebody may be taking your measure for a larger place."

“. . . Let me fall into the hand of the Lord, for His mercies are very great.” 1 Chronicles 21:13

Morgan, Robert J. *Then Sings My Soul (Vol. 1)* Thomas Nelson: 2003

**October Newsletter from the
Hillsborough Reformed Church
One Amwell Road
Millstone, NJ 08844**

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The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Luke 22:19-20

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."