

Highlights

New Britain Baptist Church
P.O. Box 5147
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New Britain, PA 18901

Looking Toward the Future

At various points in a congregation's life, we come together to think, talk, pray and act on decisions that are have potential to change the course and direction of our lives. At the October quarterly congregational meeting, some important decisions were made that move us into the next season of our life together. One of those decisions was to elect a Pastoral Search Committee.

The Pastoral Search Committee is, in accordance with our By Laws, made up of at least five members of the congregation who's task it is to work with the regional American Baptist office (in our case the Philadelphia Baptist Association) in order to secure new, permanent pastoral leadership. The committee chosen includes Barry Coulton, Patricia Coulton, Ron Hulsan-

der, Rose Konyk, and Dottie Rimmer. This group will begin meeting regularly in order to discern our own congregational identity as well as to consider as many options as possible for potential pastoral leadership. Over the course of the next months, this group will gather prayerfully and in confidentiality to do their work. They may ask the congregation for input and information that can inform their search. They may remain "silent" to the congregation for extended periods of time. It is most important during this season that all of us hold them and our church in prayer, seeking together God's vision, direction and guidance for the way ahead.

As we work to discern God's invitation



November 2011

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"Our mission is to celebrate our faith in worshipping God through prayer, study, and fellowship; seeking to grow in faith and share Christ's love with the community and the world."

to new pastoral leadership, we also have made the decision to discontinue our relationship with the Doylestown YMCA. For many years the Y has been a partner with this congregation in serving the needs of children and families in our area. Over the last several years our relationship with the Y has changed and since September, the Y has been using our facilities in spite of the fact that they have

not signed a contract. By unanimous vote, the congregation decided to extend an invitation to the Y to sign a contract which will run through the end of this calendar year at which time our relationship will end.

This decision comes after much prayer and thoughtfulness, and with full recognition that it will deepen the gap between expenses and income. However, it was in the

Looking Toward the Future (con't)

spirit of past congregational decisions that required faith and confidence in God's leading into new directions that this decision was made. As we look to the future we are beginning to think and pray about the new partnerships for ministry that might be made as we free up our space to share with others.

Important congregational decisions rooted in thoughtfulness and prayer lead us into new paths of ministry and service. Join me in continued discernment about the future and in support of your Pastoral Search Committee and Advisory Committee as together we listen for God's invitation to ministry anew.

In confidence and hope,
Marcia

In Remembrance

There will be a memorial service in honor of the late Doris Fadenrecht on November 13 at 2:00pm.



JULIET



Join JULIET on Tuesday, November 15 at 1:00pm, for an event presented by Rev. Carl Yusonvitz of Penn Foundation, Chaplin, on "Spirituality & Aging: Finding Meaning in our Mortality, Growing Old Gracefully in God's sight".

PBA Annual Mission Banquet

Save Nov 19th 11:00-3:00 pm so that you can join your NBBC friends at the PBA Annual Mission Banquet. This year our own **Sandy Reiniger** will be among those celebrated for their more than 25 years of ministry and mission! The banquet will feature an hor d'ouves reception with time to explore information booths, a delicious dinner, and guest speaker Rev. Dr. Robert J. Duncan, Jr, President of Bacone College. Get the date on your calendar now and plan to attend!



Stewardship Sunday



Stewardship Sunday will take place on November 6. Please have your pledge card returned by worship on that date.

Chal-Brit Community Thanksgiving Eve Service

This year the Chal-Brit Community Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held Nov. 23 at 7 pm at Pleasantville United Church of Christ. Marcia Bailey will be the preacher.

Men's Fellowship

Men's fellowship will meet on November 7th at 6:45pm. By Rimmer will give a presentation on a trip to South Dakota and Wyoming.

Advent Preparation Bible Study: *The First Christmas*

Beginning on Nov 7 at 7 pm, our Monday night Bible Study for Nov-Dec. will focus on the meaning of Advent and the birth of Jesus with the help of scholars John Dominic Crossan and Marcus J. Borg and the book *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach about Jesus' Birth*. Similar to our Lenten study last spring, we will be taking a closer look at the Gospels of Matthew and Luke as they tell the story of Jesus' birth. We'll explore the meaning of this important moment in faith and history in the context of both the first and the twenty first centuries. Please join us for this special Advent preparation!



Attention Singers!



Do you want to make December extra merry? You are invited to join the choir throughout November and December to prepare for December services. Throughout November, we will work on December music on Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please let me know if you will join us.

—Marge 215-362-7210

Board of Christian Ed

The Board of Christian Ed will be meeting the first Sunday of each month beginning on November 6.

NBBC Food Larder



October 1, Keller-Williams Real Estate had their 10th annual Food Drive and all donations come to our Larder. They collected almost 1100 bags of food this year. This was about 300 bags less than last year, but they had ½ of the realtors

working this year. They had hot dogs, pretzels and soda to sell, chances for restaurants in the area, car detailing and a 50/50. Chalfont Fire Co. brought a fire truck for the kids. At lunch time some of the realtors had a Chill Cook-Off and then everyone got to sample them. A great time was had by everyone here and we thank Keller-Williams again for all they do each year for us.

We have started to notice an increase in donations coming in each week. We have also heard from groups, businesses and schools about drives they will be holding for us in the next couple of months. This past week, the Bucks County 4-H Sheep Club brought us lamb, pork and chicken. One of the girls in the Club raised a pig and some chickens and then donated all the meat to us. But, even with an increase in donations, we still have empty shelves, due to the number of people coming to the Larder.

Continue to bring all bags down to us and please remember all the people who use the Larder each month especially during the winter months.

—*The Larder Committee*

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees would like to thank everyone who came out October 22 for work day. We did plenty of work and it is very much appreciated.



Also, the board is getting rid of 8-foot long tables that are scratched. If interested, please see By.

Thank You, By Rimmer

Chairperson, Board of Trustees

“History of NBBC”

I presented a program to 15 members of Featherbed Hill Questers on Thursday, October 13. It included history—1744 to the present—and the cemetery, including War veterans from the Colonial Wars to WWI who are buried there. They all loved our church! —*Kathy Seymour*

Musical Notes

As December approaches, I hope that we can gain more participation in the musical contributions of the church. Please see me about joining choir starting in November so that you can participate in the December services. Big plans need big numbers, and many of you can help to make our Christmas season merry.



We have had a change in plans for December 18th. We have decided to have two contrasting services instead of repeating the a.m. service in the evening. At our regular worship time, at 10:00 a.m., we are planning a very musical program using anthems and carols to tell the Christmas story. That evening we will have our annual “Old-Fashioned Christmas Carol Sing”. Not only do we need singers for the 10:00 service on the 18th, but I would like to include speakers, so please let me know if you will help narrate. I am still open to suggestions for the 18th, for a Christmas Eve service and for the Christmas morning service, which is a Sunday. These musical contributions can be vocal solos, ensembles, or instrumental. Please let me know if you are available to make a musical contribution for the Christmas season.

Thanks so much. —*Marge Felton, Organist*

Office Updates

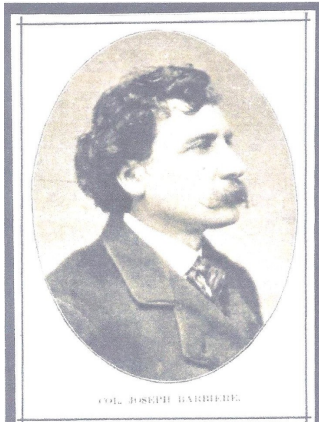
- Articles for the December Highlights are due to the office no later than Monday, November 21.
- Please pick up your 2012 calendars in the nar-



To the left are pictures from our Church to Go event on Wednesday, October 12 at Wesley Enhanced Living. The group enjoyed refreshments and a time of worship with our Doylestown shut-ins.



Did you know?



Col. Joseph Barriere is a Confederate Soldier buried in the NBBC graveyard. He died in 1895. This picture was taken from the book *“The Old Guard in Gray: Researches in the Annals of the Confederate Historical Association”* by J. Harvey Mathes.

Below the portrait it states “Colonel of Third Alabama Reserves; was taken prisoner, and had some hard experience, which he afterward wrote up in a book entitled Scraps From the Prison Table; was a lawyer and a journalist, and genial, brilliant man; was at one time President of the Tennessee Press Association; lived a good many years in Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia, and died there in 1895.”

Operating Fund

Final Treasurer’s Report
Year to date—September 30, 2011

	Actual	Budgeted
Total Income	\$86,223	\$76,288
Total Expenses	<u>\$98,206</u>	<u>\$113,579</u>
Net Income	\$ (11,983)	\$ (37,291)

Prayer List

Our prayers are with you all in the month of November!

We do not list individuals and names on any Highlights available on the Web for privacy purposes.

Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to all of our November birthdays!

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Happy Anniversary

Happy anniversary to all of our November couples!

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Keller Williams prepares for annual food drive



Keller Williams associates at NBBC dressed in red for their annual food collection that took place on Saturday, October 1.