



# The Blawenburg Beacon

*Newsletter for the members and friends of the Blawenburg Reformed Church*

November 2016

Greetings Friends in Christ Jesus,

In 2012 my father was diagnosed with lymphoma. News of the diagnosis sent my heart into the bottom of my stomach. I was gripped with the fear that this diagnosis was a death sentence. My uncle, who is a doctor at the University of Michigan, was less concerned. It sounded flip to me when I heard him casually say, "Don't plan the funeral." He could say this because as a doctor he knew that there were great treatments for lymphoma and that my dad, who had been in good health, had a good chance of beating his cancer. This Christmas will mark the three years of cancer free life for my dad.



As this anniversary approaches and after making several trips to several hospitals, I have been reflecting on the amazing advances we have seen in medicine over the past few decades. I am amazed at what doctors and medicine can do.

When Jesus showed up on the scene, part of his mission was healing. Folks were asking themselves and others if Jesus was *really* God's servant. Part of the evidence that Jesus pointed to was his healing work. In Luke chapter seven Jesus says, "Go tell... what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear...." Jesus came to heal. He came to restore full life to people who needed it most. This included forgiveness, but it also included real physical healing!

As a church I think we should rejoice that Jesus' work of healing has continued in the centuries following his earthly life. The world now, more than ever before, recognizes the rightness and the goodness of devoting resources to healing. Every year billions of dollars are designated and donated to finding cures and fighting diseases. Every year billions of dollars are designated and donated to developing better medicine and better medical procedures.

There are plenty of problems in our world, but today I am glad. I am glad that our world has taken up Jesus' work of healing so fully. I am glad that my dad is free of cancer. I am glad that folks from church can have surgery and in a matter of days be home and in relatively good health. I am glad that so many people in our world are devoting their gifts and talents to healing. Today I am glad.

*Pastor Jeff*

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*We commit our gifts to **WORSHIP** gathering as a community to celebrate God's presence among us!*

### Scripture for November Worship Services

| Date    | Special Event     | First Reading | Sermon Reading  |
|---------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Nov. 6  | Communion         | Stewardship   | Luke 2: 22—34   |
| Nov. 13 | Breakfast Worship | Stewardship   | Romans 12: 1—13 |
| Nov. 20 | Giving Thanks     | Psalms 100    | John 6:25-35    |
| Nov. 27 | Advent            | Isaiah 2:1-5  | Matt. 24:36-44  |

### Installation Service, October 23rd.

October 23rd will go down as an historic day in the life of the BRC congregation. On that day Rev. Jeffrey Knol was installed as Minister of Word and Sacrament.

Rev. David Kahler of the Griggstown Reformed Church preached the sermon for the installation. He served as the supervisor of BRC during our call process.

What a blessing and honor it was for Rev. Knol to be charged into his new position by his friend and mentor Rev. Scott Brown of the Colts Neck Reformed Church. Rev. Peter Jannsen, President of Classis, presided over the installation,

David Cochran, VP of Consistory and Gracie Johnson, elder delegate to Classis and chair of Worship also participated in the service.



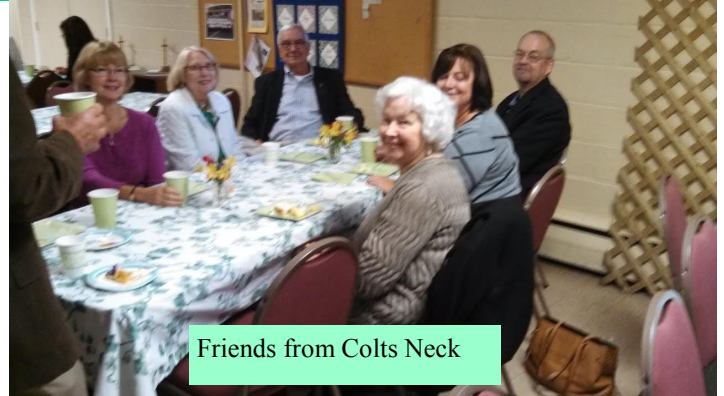


*We commit our gifts to **HOSPITALITY** caring for those in our congregation and the greater community.*

## Celebrating our New Pastor's Installation



Let them eat cake.



Friends from Colts Neck



The celebration continues.



The Pastor worked up an appetite getting installed.



BRC tradition—  
signing the pastor's  
trash can



Reverend and Mrs. Knol







## Blawenburg Village School

PO Box 153, Blawenburg, NJ 08504 | 609-466-6600  
 info@blawenburgvillageschool.com | Karen Hill, Director

### Kid's Night Out

Kid's Night Out will be held November 18<sup>th</sup> (5:30-8:30pm). This event is for children ages 2-11. It is hosted and staffed by BVS teachers. Children will be served pizza and dessert. Activities will include, games, crafts, stories and a movie. Children do not need to be registered students of BVS. Everyone is welcome!

Save the Date: The Christmas Concert - A Journey to Bethlehem will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 in the Church.

We warmly welcome anyone interested in volunteering at BVS. Reading a story, assisting with a craft, or just "playing" is always a fun way to spend an hour. Give us a call or send us an email if you'd like to join the fun.

### There has been lots going on at BVS



The children enjoy coming to the Worship Center and hearing one of the stories of God with Mrs. VanNostrand.



Fire Chief Justin of Montgomery Township Volunteer Fire Co. shared the fire truck and some fire safety information with BVS students on October 24th .

## Blawenburg Village School (continued)



Norz Hill Farm - October 14th  
Hayride, pumpkin picking



The BVS students sing Happy Birthday to Mrs. Cochran and Pastor Jeff for their birthdays.



## Trunk or Treat 2016



Bernice's Pumpkin Patch



Trunk or Treat 2016



*We commit our gifts to **MISSIONS** serving those in need both locally and around the world.*

## CROP HUNGER WALK

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

### Crop Walk 2016

The BRC Team consisted of eight walkers, Joe and Barb Pavlicek, Jeff and Jamie Knol, Pam Bainbridge, Catherine Murphy, Mimi Coffey, and Barb Antoniewicz. Thank you to everyone who supported our team and helped to raise \$1,2005.00 and collect 24 jars of peanut butter. The peanut butter has been given to our local food bank, and 25% of the money raised will be split between the Somerset County Food Bank network and SHIP, the Samaritan Interim Program. Many thanks to Gracie John-



### Update from Ken Bradsell

*(Although this is a personal email between the brothers Bradsell, Bob thought we all would be interested in Ken's update. And that, we are. Thanks for sharing. The email was dated October 17, 2016.)*

I'm back in the USA for a couple of weeks and it seems you are back too. Your trip looked like more fun than mine. Cari kept up a pretty good photo itinerary.

I leave again for Oman on October 31...only for a week. I am still a member of the RCA's Al Amana Centre Board of Directors. I'm staying around for a couple of extra days. I've been asked by the Anglican Bishop to take part in a special Anglican liturgy & Eucharist celebrating the 125th anniversary of the start of the Oman mission. Prince Charles and Princess Camille are among the expected guests/worshippers for an invitation only service. Before leaving Oman we had a visit from British security personnel from London along with the Prince's and Princess's private secretaries to review plans...very interesting.

### Food for the Hungry

This truck picks up food for the Community Food Bank, in Hillside, and delivers it to Crawford House. The Community Food Bank serves hundreds of agencies in New Jersey who in turn provide the food directly to families in need. The truck and crew pick up one ton of food five or six times a year. Mission volunteers Steve Boynton, from Blawenburg, Mike Sheehan, from Princeton, and Dave Cochran made the pick-up and delivery in October. Mike and Dave are on the Daytop/Crawford House Board. Another pick-up is planned in December.



## MISSIONS (Continued)



### Time to Fill Boxes!

Our November Mission Focus is OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD. If you are filling a shoe box individually or with your family, please return filled box by **Sunday, November 13**. The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to needy children around the world at Christmas and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. This mission of Rev. Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse always comes early!

These shoe box gifts reach children ages 2-14 in countries suffering from natural disasters, wars and endemic poverty. The boxes are fun to fill by yourself or with your children. You can find lots of fun and useful items in dollar stores. For ideas of what, and what not, to pack into your shoe box, see items listed here or go to [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org), where you can also print out an insert form that will allow you to track your package to its destination. Flat, scored, decorated boxes are available and do not have to be wrapped; all you need to do is fold and fill! Then secure the lid with a rubber band only. Packing ideas and insert forms are now available. We will sort and pack boxes on Sunday, November 13th to be delivered the following week. The Mission Team hopes you can support this outreach effort by packing a shoe box or two or by buying bulk items for several shoe boxes and then by joining us at coffee hour on November 13th .

### GIFT IDEAS

**TOYS** - small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch®, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky®, etc.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES** - pens, pencils and manual sharpener, crayons or markers, rubber stamps and ink pad sets, small writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

**HYGIENE ITEMS** - toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, wash cloth, etc.

**OTHER** - Hard candy and lollipops (Please double bag all candy.), mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps; sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

**A PERSONAL NOTE** - In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

**DO NOT INCLUDE:** Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.



*We commit our gifts to **PROCLAMATION** spreading the good news of salvation*

### **Family Game Night - November 4th, 7 - 10 pm**

Blawenburg Reformed Church Family Game Night is here!

Bring your family, your friends, or just yourself for an evening of excitement, competition, and fun-filled game playing...  
Who's got game...??



What's an awesome way to spend the evening?

Let me draw you a picture. Guaranteed to be a night without compare!

What's a fun event that starts with a 'G'? Game Night!

Pictionary, Trivia, Apples to Apples, Charades, Jenga, Sorry, Spoons, Uno, Clue, Dominoes, and more...

Join us for a 'winning' night! Details below.

**When: Friday, November 4, 2016, 7:00 PM to 10:00 pm**

Location: Memorial Hall (Building next to Blawenburg Reformed Church)  
424 County Highway 518, Blawenburg, NJ 08504

Light refreshments will be served.

So, all you competitive people out there...we challenge you to Bring your Game On!

We are looking forward to seeing you Friday, November 4th!

**\*\*If anyone would like to donate supplies or games for this event, please contact Allison Clancy at (732) 672-6766 (call or text). Thank you!**

#### **Items Needed:**

**Crayons**

**Children's markers (water soluble, no permanent please)**

**Coloring Books**

**Board Games**

**Card Games**

**DVDs (family oriented)**

**Reading books (all age groups, children's preferred)**



## Proclamation (Continued)



### You're Invited to a Baby Shower For Jamie, Jeff, and baby Knol (a girl)

**When:** Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, during coffee hour

**Place:** Cook Hall

Please plan to come and  
bring a gift or a warm wish.



Jamie is registered at <http://babylistregistry.com/jamie-knol>. Jamie is also registered on Amazon.com. On the Amazon homepage click on the "Gift Cards and Registry" tab, then "Baby Registry" and search for the name "Jamie Knol."

When asked, Jamie replied, "What we need most is the cloth diapers and bottles on Baby List. We are all set on baby clothes and blankets."

Any questions, contact Evelyn Cochran.

### Men's Breakfast

The Men's Breakfast will be at the Midpoint Grill, 421 Wall Street, Princeton (across from the airport), at 7:30am on Wednesday, November 16th, Let Joe know if you plan to be there—[jpavl1999@aol.com](mailto:jpavl1999@aol.com). Come enjoy a time of food and fellowship with friends. Check out the menu at [www.midpointgrill.com](http://www.midpointgrill.com). This grill is wheelchair accessible.



California Oval

### Blue Pomegranate in November

The art of Jacqui Alexander will be featured. Jacqui's paintings draw on a love of science and the natural world. Through organic forms and imagery, she explores color and creates a slightly cryptic personal narrative. Her recent works vary in size - from mid-sized landscapes to smaller pieces, the scale of which can reference devotional icons. The paintings are inspired by love, wanderlust, and the landscapes and wildlife of her native New Jersey. An alumni of Rhode Island School of Design, Jacqui is the owner of Jacquilope, a local social media consultancy. She lives in Pennington, NJ. She can be reached at [jacqui.alexander@gmail.com](mailto:jacqui.alexander@gmail.com). Suzanne Ives Cuningham will be another artist featured that night.



The End

**Where:** Memorial Hall

**When:** November 17th

**Time** 7:30-10:00 pm

Cost: donation

Refreshments: Provided

## PROCLAMATION (Continued)

**November Blue Pomegranate**  
**November 17 at 7:30 pm**

### The Musical Artists are :

**The Beagles** are a fun-loving Mercer/Bucks County sextet that play power pop, rock and soul originals and cover tunes dating from the early 60s through today. If it's catchy, they love it. When they play covers, they give their own spin to songs you will know. When they play originals, they strive to make them as infectious as the covers.

**Rob Freeman** and **Steve Wolpert** began playing music together in 2012, launching **The Beagles** as a duo focused on developing arrangements of Rob's original material and a wide range of covers for sax, guitar, and vocal harmonies. They have now grown into a 6 piece roots driven rock ensemble with a three part harmony blend, adding singer **Lisa Theodore**, keyboardist **Steven Georges** and the dynamic rhythm section of **Frank Genus** and guest

**The Beagles** have performed regularly around Mercer, Bucks and Montgomery at venues including Hopewell Valley Vineyards, Princeton's Alchemist and Barrister, the Princeton Public Library and many outdoor summer concert series including appearances at Hinds' Plaza in Princeton and Weeden Park and Eldridge Park in Lawrenceville as well as events sponsored by the Einstein Alley Musician's Collaborative.

### THE BEAGLES are:

**Rob Freeman:** Vocals, Acoustic & Electric Guitar

**Steve Wolpert:** Vocals, Alto Saxophone, Percussion

**Lisa Theodore:** Vocals, Acoustic Guitar, Percussion

**Steven Georges:** Keyboards

**Frank Genus:** Bass Guitar

**David Ross:** Guest drummer





## PROCLAMATION (Continued)

### SINTERKLAAS 2016 One Month and Counting

The Date – December 3, 2016

The Time – 9:00am – 2:00pm

The Co-Chairs – Gracie Johnson 609.466.1862 gtuck-erbj@gmail.com and Barb Reid 609.558.4471 bareid35@aol.com

Booths (refer to October Beacon for detailed needs)

Crafts – The crafters have been working for many months and this booth has many beautiful items but they would be happy to accept more. Please put a suggested sale price on your item. **Donations due Dec. 1**

**Bernice Van Nostrand, Chair 908.359.6579 vns206@aol.com**

Frozen Soups – Soups are now coming in. Thanks to those who have already been cooking. A note from the soup guy: It's that time of the year again when we will be building up our soup supply. Soup sales have been a big hit at previous Sinterklaas events and we would like to continue the tradition this year. We are looking for at least 150 containers of soup (in pints and quarts). The good news is that if many of us fill just a few containers, we will reach our goal. The process is straightforward:

- 1.) Find your favorite recipe.
  - 2.) Get soup containers in the basement of Cook Hall. Both pint and quart sizes are here.
  - 3.) Make the soup at your convenience.
  - 4.) IMPORTANT: Tape a label on the LID of the soup container that lists the name of the soup and its ingredients.
  - 5.) Put the soup in the freezer in the kitchen of Cook Hall anytime. Be sure to print your name and the name and quantities of your soups in the blue folder near the freezer.
- That's it! When you've made your soup, sit down and relax knowing that you've helped the church raise money for God's work in our church and community. Thanks in advance for your help. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

**Dave Cochran, Chair 609.466.3539 davidc99@aol.com**

Baked Goods – All confectionery treats are needed. Breads and jams too. Please place cookies in packages of 6. Make sure to label everything with all ingredients and your initials.

**Evelyn Cochran, Chair 609.466.3539 davidc99@aol.com**

White Elephant – TREASURES, as opposed to rummage! New and gently used items appropriate for gift giving are quite welcome. No clothing please. Save that for the rummage sale in the Spring. You may start to bring White Elephant items in beginning Monday, October 24. They must be placed behind the screen dividers at the west end of the basement.

**Peggy Querec, Chair 609.924.8718 mquerec@yahoo.com**

Brunch – Lisa will oversee a lovely brunch that will be set up both in the kitchen and just outside the kitchen door at the foot of the inside stairs. Lisa will surely be asking for your culinary goodies to sell. Please also let us know if you can help with setting up, serving, and cleanup.

**Lisa White, Chair 908.359.6320 lisaawhite1@comcast.net**  
Heifer International – Count on this booth for your gift giving needs again this year. Should you run across small stuffed animals or inexpensive books about the animals represented (cows, sheep, camels, oxen, water buffalo, pigs, honeybees, goats, donkeys, ducks, rabbits, guinea pigs, chicks, llamas), we would love to have them on hand to sell.  
**Barb Pavlicek, Chair 609.683.5523 bjpmay1998@aol.com**

Barb Bradsell will be selling her beautiful handmade baskets again this year. Boy Scout Troop # 46 will be in attendance, selling their Christmas wreaths. Should you know of anyone who might like to sell their handmade crafts, we would appreciate your letting us know about them. These vendors add variety and a nice ambiance to the bazaar venue.

Sign Up sheets will begin to appear in Cook Hall very shortly. You will be able to sign up to work in a booth, and there are many other jobs and opportunities of equal importance. Getting out the word is vital. Signs and flyers will need to be distributed in the coming days. We need decorators, individuals to park cars, and those who are able to set up prior to the event and break down afterward. There is much to do and we depend on such willing and capable hands.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your unfailing generosity with your time and your talents. We look forward to a day of fun and fellowship as we raise money for God's work in our church and our community.

In love and appreciation,

Gracie and Barb



## Classis Corner

On Tuesday, October 11th, our church hosted the Stated Session of Classis. Thank you to the many people who prepared the fresh ziti the Saturday before as well as the salad and dessert. Our kitchen crew was headed up by Pastor Jeff and Wendy Herbert. Thanks to Evelyn Cochran and the Hospitality Team for their over-all organization of the dinner.



The Classis at worship after dinner.

## Leaf Raking 2016



Join with the Boy Scout Troop 46 for leaf raking on November 12 and December 10, 9 am till noon. BYO rake. Refreshments provided.

## Christmas Poinsettias

We will be placing Poinsettias in the church sanctuary again this year. Anyone wishing to order a Poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, or in celebration of the Season can do so. The cost will be \$15 per plant. Please fill out the form below, and return it with payment to the church office (of in the secretary's box) by November 21. If you have any questions please call Karen at the church office (609-466-1832) or Jean Beachell (609-924-7637). Please make checks payable to Jean Beachell

Poinsettia Order Form Christmas Poinsettias

### Poinsettia Order Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity (all flowers are red) \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (payable to Jean Beachell)

Cash enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Dedication – from: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor or memory of (please circle one) \_\_\_\_\_



Baby and mom -- family of a pastoral candidate .



**OFFICE HOURS****MON** 8:30 to 1:30**THUR** 8:30 to 3:30**FRI** 8:30 to 11:30

*The Blawenburg Beacon  
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**Blawenburg  
Reformed  
Church**

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**Summary of Dates**  
(See articles for more information.)

**Dates in November ...**

Nov. 4—Family Game Night, 7 pm

Nov. 5—Turn back your clock

Nov. 6—Daylight Saving time ends

Nov. 8 Eagle Scout Review Board

Nov. 12 Leaf Raking, 9—noon

Nov. 13 Return OCC shoeboxes

Nov. 14 Consistory, 7:30 pm

Nov. 16—Men's Breakfast, 7:30 am

Nov. 17—Blue Pomegranate, 7:30 pm

**Nov. 21—December Beacon Deadline**Nov. 24-25— Church office closed for  
Thanksgiving

Nov. 29—Mary &amp; Martha, 6:30 pm

**Planning Ahead ...**

Dec. 3—Sinterklaas, 9am—2pm

Dec. 10—Leaf Raking, 9—noon

Dec. 10—BVS Christmas Concert, 3 pm

Dec. 12—Consistory, 7:30 pm

Dec. 24—Christmas Eve Service, 5pm

Dec. 25—Christmas Day Worship, 10am

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!****NOVEMBER**

22 Gracie Johnson

24 Wendy Herbert

**ANNIVERSARIES**Nov 3 Todd Quackenbush  
& Pamela WannerNov 27 Barbara & Bob  
Bradsell

*If you don't see your name  
listed and it should be,  
please let Karen know so  
we can celebrate with you!*

**WEEKLY EVENTS****Worship** Sundays @10AM**Bible Study** Tuesdays

@10AM in CH Library

**AA Meeting** Tuesdays

@6:30PM in CH Basement

**Fall Events at Marble**

For details about summer  
events at Marble log on to  
[www.marblechurch.org!](http://www.marblechurch.org!)



**amazon**smile

**BLAWENBURG REFORMED  
CHURCH**

*In Service to the Risen Christ since 1832*

*The Blawenburg Reformed Church is a covenant community of God's people united in Christ through the Holy Spirit. We commit our gifts to worship, hospitality, life-long learning, serving those in need, and proclaiming the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ.*