



BLAWENBURG REFORMED CHURCH

In Service to the Risen Christ since 1832



**MARBLE
COLLEGIATE
CHURCH**

BRC is a partner in ministry with Marble Collegiate Church in NYC.

December 10, 2015

Dear friend in ministry,

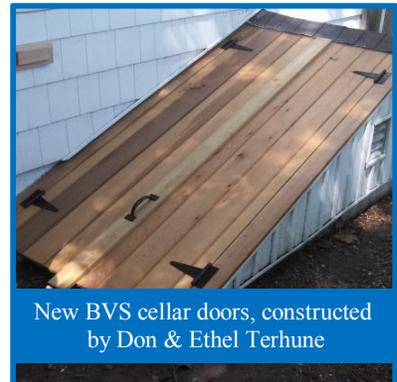
Our new start at Blawenburg Church has seen us make some changes – and they’ve been good ones. Our partnership with Marble Collegiate Church in Manhattan has entered its second year, and we’ve benefited from the pastoral care of Travis. Losing Travis and his family so soon is cause for some sadness, but it’s a wonderful opportunity for them – and a challenge to make it an opportunity for us.



Visit from Al & Sue Schrueder, Chiapas Missionaries

Our Mission Team has been busy. We’ve completed our participation in the RCA’s mission to Chiapas, Mexico, and we’ve joined a new mission with former BRC pastor Ken Bradsell and his wife Marcia in Oman, in the troubled Middle East. Our support of CROP Hunger Walk, Samaritan’s Purse, Heifer International and Montgomery Township’s Crawford House continue stronger than ever.

Closer to home, we’ve been paying attention to the care of our resources, including our buildings. Projects completed this year included: a new storm window on the west side of the church; gutters and leaf guards on Cook Hall, Memorial Hall, the parsonage and the pre-school; realigned and weather-stripped entries and new door sills on Cook Hall and the pre-school; new doors leading to preschool cellar; and the removal of three dangerously rotted trees, one in front of the church. Next on the repair agenda: the two entrance foyers in the church; and updating the church’s sound system. Donations toward these and other specific projects are always welcome and very helpful.



New BVS cellar doors, constructed by Don & Ethel Terhune

As you know, we’re heavily dependent on the regular giving of our members and friends to meet our tight budget and to keep our beautiful church campus functioning for all we use it for. Sunday services in our historic sanctuary require maintenance and updating from time to time, and our other

424 Route 518 † P.O. Box 266 † Blawenburg, NJ 08504
Church Office 609-466-1832 † Blawenburg Village School 609-466-6600
www.BlawenburgChurch.org † BRC1832@verizon.net

facilities are important to our mission as well. Parents from all parts of the township take advantage of our preschool. We host meetings in Cook Hall for the Reformed Church in America, our own Boy Scout Troop 46, Alcoholics Anonymous and others. And our Third Thursday *Blue Pomegranate* program in Memorial Hall has attracted an eclectic crowd. It's extremely important that we keep these facilities maintained and working well.

We're blessed with four endowed funds – named for those who have bequested them to the church. These funds help enormously with some of the *big ticket* expenses we encounter. And our partnership with Marble Collegiate helps pay about a third of the pastor's salary and benefits. But most of what it costs to keep our church operating comes from our regular weekly and monthly giving.

On the enclosed card, please let the Finance Team know what your financial pledge will be for the coming year. We depend on this information to budget and to allocate scarce resources. Also on the card is space for you to let the team know if you are interested in making a planned gift or bequest through a will. Remember, as we approach the end of the year, that there may be tax advantages to planning financial gifts at this time.

Please return your card in the offering box at church – or in the self-addressed envelope provided. Your responses will be handled carefully, and confidentially. If you have questions, ask one of us; that's what we're here for...

...and ***Thank you*** for your commitment to God's work in our community. Let us know we can count on your support.

Most Sincerely,

The Consistory

enclosed:

pledge card
return envelope