

# OLD BERGEN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



*"Making a Space for Grace"*

**MARCH 2016**

**Old Bergen Church of Jersey City  
1 Highland Ave.**

**Jersey City, NJ 07306-4509**

**Phone 201-433-1815 Fax 201-433-0788**

<http://www.olderbergenchurch.com>

## HOLY WEEK

Holy is the week...

Holy, consecrated, belonging to God...

We move from hosannas to horror with the predicable ease  
of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung, our palms waved, let us go with passion into this week.

It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.

It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.

It is a time to greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One, to lavishly break our alabaster  
And pour perfume out for him without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation...

The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.

The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.

Eat, drink, remember: On this night of nights, each one must ask,  
as we dip our bread in the wine, "Is it I?"

And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand beneath the tree and watch the dying  
if we are to be there when the stone is rolled away.

The only road to Easter morning is through the unrelenting shadows of that Friday.

Only then will the alleluias be sung; only then will the dancing begin.

*~from Kneeling in Jerusalem, by Ann Weems*

**PALM SUNDAY** March 20<sup>th</sup>, Worship at 11:00 am

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** March 24<sup>th</sup>, Worship and Communion at 7:00  
pm

**GOOD FRIDAY** March 25, Community Stations of the Cross 9:30 am  
Worship Service at 7:00 pm

**EASTER MORNING** March 27<sup>th</sup>, Early Service at 8:30 am  
Easter Breakfast at 9:30 am  
Worship Service at 11:00 am

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Jon

## STAFF

Pastor:

Rev. Jonathan Brown

Ministries: All Members

Clerk of Session:

Johnnie Lovejoy

Custodian:

Mario Curis

Music Director:

Chris Johnson

Bookkeeper:

Michael Rems

## CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders

Deacons

Trustees

## CHURCH GROUPS

Church Life, Music and  
Worship

Personnel

Sunday School

## SPECIAL EVENTS

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday-Sunday School,  
Communion

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday-Sunday School,  
Youth Sunday

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Sunday School,  
Morning Worship

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Sunday School,  
Morning Worship

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Sunday School,  
Morning Worship, Service  
of Healing and Wholeness

### From the Deacons

The deacons would like to thank the deacons whose term of office has ended. Enjoy your sabbatical and we hope to have you back on the board soon. More importantly we would like to welcome the new deacons, Mary Daane and Kelly Lewis and Kayla who accepted a 4<sup>th</sup> year. Your help and input is greatly needed! We held our meeting February 28 and elected officers, discussed the food pantry, duties of the deacons, etc. Regarding the food pantry we still have not received any money from Let's Celebrate for 2015 so **YOUR** monetary and food donations are greatly appreciated. Also, the ShopRite grant has also been cut in half so that also causes a financial deficit **and** the RCW grant has been discontinued.

An **AGAPE MEAL** was hosted February 14 following church service. This meal honored the new members who joined Old Bergen Church in the past year.

### OBC Connections

The OBC Connections is a new group that will be getting together starting in the New Year beginning in the month of February and will meet the last Saturday of every month from 12:30-3:30 in the church parlor. The group OBC Connections is open to all church adult members who wish to chat and pray and talk in a safe trusting environment. Please see Laurie Comes for more information or pick up a flyer at the church with more detailed information.

### Old Bergen Church Yahoo Group

Thank you to the church members who accepted the invitations to the Old Bergen Church Yahoo group. Many more still need to accept the invitations. The ones sent earlier have expired so new ones will be sent next week. Please accept the invitations when you receive them. You will have to set up a Yahoo account or you can use your old Yahoo account. The Yahoo group is the easiest way for Pastor, the church office or other church members to correspond quickly.

### Sunday School News

*We continue into the winter season taking snow storms and cold weather in our stride. Hopefully we can all be out to support the Old Bergen Sunday School when able.*

*Lenten season is early this year with Ash Wednesday starting February 10<sup>th</sup>.*

*Palm Sunday will be March 20<sup>th</sup> and our Easter Breakfast is March 27<sup>th</sup>.*

*Students are enjoying the extra input of our Junior/Senior high teaching team of Betsy and Neil.*

*Keep looking for updates on all our activities through the church news in Sunday bulletins and this newsletter.*

*Let us all continue to be Super Heroes for Christ to achieve all we can in his name.*

### Deacons' Corner

Non-Perishable Foods are **ALWAYS** needed for the Food Pantry. Here are some suggestions:

Jan-Fruit

Feb-Peanut Butter

March-Snacks

April-Tuna

May-Powdered Milk

June-Juice

July-Soup

August-Pasta

September-Rice

October-Cereal

November-Sauce

December-Vegetables

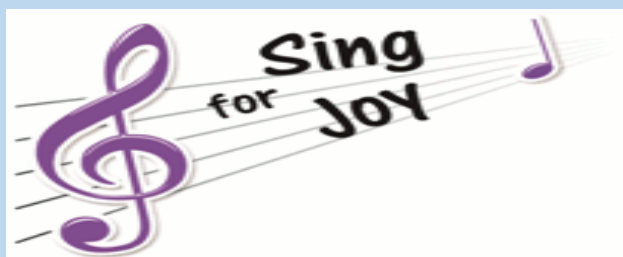
### MIDNIGHT RUN/EMMAUS PROJECT

-This is an ongoing project with the Old Bergen Church Deacons and St Peter's College to help the homeless in the area. In the church parlor there is a hamper dressed in lady bugs. While you are doing your spring cleaning and beyond please bring any personal sized toilet articles (soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes, etc) to the church and put them in the hamper. St Peter's will collect them when we have enough donated and make up bags to give to the homeless. Thanks!



## CHOIR

*Calling all Choir Members Old and New!! Lift up your voice in song. Speak to Chris Johnson if you would like to join the choir. It is a lot of fun!!! Chris is sending emails with the song of the week so you can practice at home!! Also, an Old Bergen Church Facebook page is in the planning stages, more info to follow! The choir will meet each Sunday at 10:30 am in the church Parlor. Anyone is welcome each Sunday to rehearse the day's hymns and responses. From time to time the choir will also practice special music for special occasions. Those who are Sunday school teachers can meet the choir in the Parlor at 10:45 am or as soon as you are able. Come make joyful noise to the Lord! Visitors are invited to join even if it is for one week.*



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## March Birthdays

1 Megan Jamurath	15 Jeanelle Jamurath
1 Eunice Momanyi	15 Sasha Gibbons
3 Rachel Mungroo	18 Roland Ratmeyer
8 Nancy Malik Amin	22 William Ennis, Jr.
9 Nathan Folk	29 Jasmine Jennings
9 Maria Lisa Nerahoo	
12 Laurie Comes	
12 Aliena Mohamed	



## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Join us every Wednesday night at 7:00 pm in the Chapel of Peace for our Adult Bible Study.

### 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

*<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres.*

**PHOTOS-** If you have pictures from worship service or any special events at Old Bergen Church, please e-mail them to the church secretary.  
oldbergenchurch@gmail.com  
Thank You.



**ALTAR FLOWERS-** Following their use in worship the Deacons share the flowers every Sunday to a church member or those in need. Please let Deacon Dottie Stalter know if you know of someone in the hospital or not feeling well who might appreciate the flowers.

**GIRL SCOUTS-**A Girl Scout group has starting meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday nights in the Parlor. If you are interested in signing your daughter up, please contact Margaret Lewis at 973-941-6814.

**Do You Need A Ride To Church???** The deacons are trying to pair members of the church who really need a ride to church with other members who could help provide rides. If you could use this service please sign the form on the table by the ramp. If you have any questions please ask a deacon.

**EASTER FLOWERS** – You can order Easter lilies or tulips for Easter Sunday by using the bulletin inserts or by calling the church office. Plants are \$10 each and can be picked up following the 11:00 worship service on Easter morning. Deadline for ordering is March 20.

**YOUTH MISSION PROJECT** – The junior and senior high youth have taken on a special service project this year by “adopting” a Head Start class. They are collecting school supplies, dress up clothing, simple puzzles, and other items. They also will visit the class from time to time, read stories, share music, and get to know the students. The next visit to the class is Wednesday morning, **March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 am.**



### **NEW CLASS OF OFFICERS**

On February 14<sup>th</sup> we ordained and installed a new class of officers. Please note the current Elders, Deacons and Trustees:

#### **ELDERS**

Wendy Badree  
Constantino “Tom” Buno  
Gail Pantozzi

Johnnie Lovejoy, Clerk  
John Folk  
Joy Gibbons

Sattie Deodat  
Bebe Harry  
Winston Rambaran

#### **DEACONS**

Kayla Badree  
Laurie Comes  
Katrina Robinson

Olivia Morrison  
Emily Carlin, Moderator  
Dorothy Stalter, Treasurer

Wendy Boodoosingh  
Mary Daane  
Kellie Lewis

#### **TRUSTEES**

Sattie Deodat  
Jonilee Ketelsen, Chair

Sandra Jamurath  
Jonathan Crozier, Secretary

Christopher Fortich  
Tom Buno, Treasurer

### **ONGOING NEWS AND PROJECTS**

**OLD EYEGLASSES-** Old Bergen Sunday School sponsors an ongoing collection of old eye glasses, also including your unused glass cases. Thank you for your donations.

**Love on the Move-**We are looking for volunteers to help move people who are in need of rapid re-housing.

**Remember-** If you have any questions or suggestions for a sermon; put them in the Spiritual Curiosity Box!

**Knitters-**We are making prayer shawls as a physical symbol of our care and support. If you are interested in learning to make one or would like to request one be made for you, contact Susan Kornutick.

**Adult Literacy-** We are conducting Adult Literacy Classes on the second and third Saturday of the month. Contact Shirley Thompson if you are interested in volunteering.

**Companions in Christ-**We would like to start a program in which congregational members assist elderly members or members in need with errands, fixing things, chores, etc. If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who might benefit from these services, please contact Emily Carlin at 201-915-0788 or email [books1127@verizon.net](mailto:books1127@verizon.net)

**Youth Fellowship-**Middle school and High School young people are encouraged to join us once a month for regular youth fellowship. We typically meet on the fourth Sunday after worship.



## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

Bob Steele  
Candice Buno  
Alvin Gangram  
Dirus Singh  
Dorothy Wellinghorst  
The Weaver Boys  
Janelle Rowland  
Steven Kishlansky  
Warren Williams  
Zenny Williams  
Waveney Uthandi  
Richard Reilly  
Florence Ibrahim

Ryan Gangram  
Samantha Harriam  
Rallston Gangram  
Matt Burns  
Mavis Deodat  
William Ennis  
Nadia Harridam  
Natalia Ahmad  
June Ali  
Eleanor Longo  
Laurie Comes  
Barbara & Milton Frankle  
Maureen Robinson

Allan Boodoo  
Ahdesh Chandrasain  
Kalila Martin  
Sean Ramnauth  
Dan Aaron  
Sue Anne Ohman  
William Carnemola  
Vivian Evangel  
Sally Ally  
Angella Goolcharan  
James Kornutick  
Ivan Deodat  
Francois Ibrahim



## **Notes from the Consistory Session**

- The average Sunday attendance last month was 69
- One new member was received last month, Neil Templeton. Welcome, Neil!
- The annual meeting was held January 31, 2016.
- The next Consistory Session will be March 20<sup>th</sup> following worship.

## **Mission Support**

In addition to our support of **Char and David Alexander** who serve in **Taiwan**, we have taken up direct support of **Nancy and Shelvis Smith-Mather**, in the **Republic of South Sudan**. Read more about their work with RECONCILE to build peace in this new nation following years of civil war and conflict.

[www.presbyterianmission.org](http://www.presbyterianmission.org)



## **ONGOING NEWS AND PROJECTS** **(cont.)**

**Contact Information-** If your birthday has been missed, you do not receive this newsletter or you have recently moved, changed your telephone number, e mail address, etc. please contact the church office.

**Community Outreach-** We have been helping the local office of Church World Service in their ministry of refugee resettlement. Six families have been settled this year. Donations of household goods, linens, and clothing to the church and CWS will pick them up.

**FAMILY PROMISE – INTERFAITH FAMILY SHELTER-** Did you know that there is no homeless shelter in Jersey City that currently can take a complete family unit with two parents or boys over the age of fourteen? Old Bergen has made a commitment to this project, which would include meals and overnight accommodations at the church for a week at a time. The project expects to get under way in 2016.

## 2016 Presbyterian Youth Triennium – July 19-23

Once every three years the largest gathering of Presbyterians in the denomination takes place on the campus of Purdue University. This summer over 5,000 high school students and their adult advisors will gather for the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Nearly 50 young people from our region will participate. Old Bergen Church will be well represented this year!

**Pastor Jon** is serving as the events Worship Coordinator. **Francois Ibrahim** and **James Williams** (along with three other youth from the area) will be part of the Worship Drama Team each day. **Sattie Deodat** and **Wendy Badree** will attend as adult chaperones and **Johnnie Lovejoy** will serve as a Conference Dean. And depending on summer intern placement, **Kayla Badree** has been accepted to serve on the collegiate work crew. Please keep these people and all the participants in your prayers! Visit [www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org](http://www.presbyterianyouthtriennium.org) for more information.

Additions? If you have something for the newsletter, KUDOS or articles, please submit it to Pastor or the church secretary for publication. The newsletter is an ongoing project. The deadline for the next newsletter will be March 25<sup>th</sup>.

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**Agape Meal/Valentine's Day Luncheon for New Members**

OLD BERGEN CHURCH 1 HIGHLAND AVE JERSEY CITY, NJ 07306  
201-433-1815 CHURCH OFFICE M-F 9:30 am-2:30 pm  
[www.oldbergenchurch.com](http://www.oldbergenchurch.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>28</div> 11am - Worship @ 12:15pm - Consistor 12:30pm - Deacons 4pm - IEMELIF @ 6pm - Christian	<div>29</div> 10:30am - Staff 6pm - Girl Scouts	<div>1</div> 7pm - AA Meeting @	<div>2</div> 9am - NA Meeting @ 10am - Youth visit 7pm - Bible Study 8pm - GA Meeting @	<div>3</div> 7pm - CCJC @ Chapel	<div>4</div> 9am - NA Mtg	<div>5</div>
<div>6</div> 11am - Worship @ 4pm - IEMELIF @ 6pm - Christian	<div>7</div> 10:30am - Staff 6pm - Girl Scouts	<div>8</div> 10am - Food & 7pm - AA Meeting @	<div>9</div> 9am - NA Meeting @ 7pm - Bible Study 8pm - GA Meeting @	<div>10</div> 7pm - CCJC @ Chapel	<div>11</div> 9am - NA Mtg	<div>12</div>
<div>13</div> 11am - Worship @ 12:30pm - Finance & 4pm - IEMELIF @ 6pm - Christian	<div>14</div> 6pm - Girl Scouts	<div>15</div> 7pm - AA Meeting @	<div>16</div> 9am - NA Meeting @ 7pm - Bible Study 8pm - GA Meeting @	<div>17</div> 7pm - CCJC @ Chapel	<div>18</div> 9am - NA Mtg	<div>19</div>
<div>20</div> 11am - Worship @ 12:30pm - Consistor 4pm - IEMELIF @ 6pm - Christian	<div>21</div> 10:30am - Staff 6pm - Girl Scouts	<div>22</div> 7pm - AA Meeting @	<div>23</div> 9am - NA Meeting @ 8pm - GA Meeting @	<div>24</div> 7pm - CCJC @ Chapel 7pm - Maundy	<div>25</div> 9am - NA Mtg 7pm - Good Friday	<div>26</div> 9am - Food Pantry 12:30pm - OBC
<div>27</div> 8:30am - Early 9:30am - Easter 11am - Worship @ 4pm - IEMELIF @ 6pm - Christian	<div>28</div> 6pm - Girl Scouts	<div>29</div> 7pm - AA Meeting @	<div>30</div> 9am - NA Meeting @ 7pm - Bible Study 8pm - GA Meeting @	<div>31</div> 7pm - CCJC @ Chapel	<div>1</div> 9am - NA Mtg	<div>2</div>