



# HBRC News

## Welcome to High Bridge Reformed Church

To all who join us, we rejoice that you are here. May God's Spirit warm our hearts, stir our faith, renew our strength, and refresh our hope.

This newsletter serves an outlet to keep everyone informed of the happenings of HBRC!

We look forward to being in touch!

**HBRC is a family of believers whose diverse gifts are woven together in the Holy Spirit to form the Body of Christ.**

**As we grow in faith, we are called to share God's boundless love for us and to extend that love into our community.**

**Therefore HBRC welcomes all people of God into our family, without condemnation, regardless of: race, color, ethnicity, or nationality; gender or gender expression; sexual identity; or mental and physical abilities. We accept all without considering: income, family structure, immigration status, education, or military service.**

**Our desire is for all people to know the hope and unity that we have found in Christ.**

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### Meet the Team

Pastor- Ed Staats  
Assistant- Jessica Luteran  
Music Director- Landon Peer

Office  
908-638-8978  
[info@hbreformedchurch.org](mailto:info@hbreformedchurch.org)

Pastor  
908-303-0212  
[pastor@hbreformedchurch.org](mailto:pastor@hbreformedchurch.org)

### Office Hours

Our office is open Wednesdays and Fridays  
9:30am-12:30pm.  
Other times are available if needed.  
Pastoral appointments can also be made at other times.

### Worship Schedule

**In person**- Sundays at 10a

**Virtual**- livestreamed  
<https://www.youtube.com/@highbridgereformedchurch9173>

## Pastor's Corner

Along the Columbia trail, I'm already noticing signs of summer fading and autumn making her first appearances. The hardwood trees are cutting back on chlorophyll and revealing their vibrant colors before they surrender and let go. As I watch the seasons change I become more mindful of life's seasons.

Some seasons are meant for rapid growth and fruitfulness, while others are suited for lying dormant, hibernating, and biding our time. Growth is never uniform; it's true for trees, it's true for our spiritual lives. There can be more growth in one season than in all the other seasons combined.

Autumn scatters seeds that will bring new life in the spring, we just need to hang on through the winter. Beneath the surface of the cold ground, there are amazing things going on invisible to the human eye. It is a gift to accept what is, to embrace the season you are in, and to be open to the surprises God still has in store for you.

Each precious moment is for savoring and for learning what life has to offer. Like autumn leaves ready to let go, we are ready to let go whatever binds us, so that we can be ready for God's new thing. As songwriter Dan Wilson put it, "every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end". So I offer this prayer:

*God of the seasons, there is a time for everything; there is a time for dying and a time for rising. We need courage to enter into the transformation process.*

*God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting go of what has been. We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to do so.*

*God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns. As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.*

*God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence. May we gain strength from this.*

*God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, many gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender. We must wait for harvest in faith and hope. Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.*

*God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be carried into the future. We yearn for insight and vision.*

*God of flowers touched with frost and windows wearing white designs, may your love keep our hearts from growing cold in the empty seasons.*

*God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us with the freedom to choose life. For all this, we are grateful. Amen.*

*(author unknown)*

May you find joy in the changing seasons  
and in the seasons of your soul!

The peace of Christ be with you,  
Pastor Ed



## Missions

### Fall Spotlight

During the months of September, October and November we will be collecting toiletries and other items to create Blessing Bags for three local organizations

*SAFE in Hunterdon  
Veterans Haven North  
NJ Fireman's Home*

Our hope is our Blessing Bags provide a little bit of comfort and joy to those who receive them. We will put the bags together during the October and November Coffee Hours.

Link to the collection list:  
<https://www.thingstogetme.com/836270a4e1ce>

### Ongoing Missions

#### Food Collection

HBRC makes weekly deliveries of goods collected to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry. Check social media or check with Joey to find out what goods are currently needed at OCFP.

<https://opencupboardfoodpantry.org>

#### Pull Tabs

HBRC collects aluminum tabs for "Pull For The House". The tabs collected are donated to Ronald McDonald House. The program provides revenue provides donations to Ronald McDonald House families in need.

<https://www.rmhsnj.org/pull-for-the-house>

#### Pill Bottles

HBRC collects pills bottles throughout the year for Matthew 25 Ministries. These pill bottles are sent with medical supplies to 3<sup>rd</sup> world countries to help provide medicine in a clean and safe manner.

<https://m25m.org/pillbottles/>

All donations may be dropped off in the back of the Sanctuary Sunday mornings, weekdays during office hours or in the blue bin outside by the backdoor (anytime).

### Good News!

Open Cupboard  
Food Pantry

Current Needs are:  
Coffee

Toilet Paper

Mandarin Oranges

Fruit Cups

Butter

Canned Pineapple

OCFP now has an  
Amazon Wishlist!

[https://  
www.amazon.com/  
hz/wishlist/  
ls/3B2FEJBT5NDX4?  
ref\\_=wl\\_share&fbclid=I  
wY2xjawEaccZleHRuA  
2F1bQlxMAABHeGsj725  
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RIikTw](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3B2FEJBT5NDX4?ref_=wl_share&fbclid=IwY2xjawEaccZleHRuA2F1bQlxMAABHeGsj725DR_SmiCL_r3HCeUvV-A2Qne6qjSV0rWF3jncoBT3tPmOa7wSaA_aem_bbnWD29ccqWFJZNHRIikTw)

# Coming Soon...

## “The Southern Harmony” Spiritual Folk Songs of the 1800’s November 9th at 6:00pm



The Southern Harmony, and Musical Companion was compiled by William "Singin' Billy" Walker and printed in 1835. It contained 335 songs, went through several editions, and became one of the most popular southern tune-books in the 19th century popularizing many modern favorite hymns & tunes, such as: Wondrous Love, Amazing Grace, Rock of Ages, Come Ye Sinner Poor and Needy, and many others.

The book, like many which followed, used 'shape-note' notation, assisting folks in sight-reading the 3 and 4-part harmony parts (which are very simple when compared to the part-writing in modern hymnals such as ours). Shapes were added to the noteheads in written music to help singers find pitches within major and minor scales without the use of more complex information found in key signatures on the staff.

Shape note music was used extensively by Baptist and Methodist preachers in the Second Great Awakening to help spread Christianity in the South. Because the music could be read and sung by amateurs, hymns in shape note annotation became the centerpiece of many revivals and camp meetings on the frontier.

This music is characterized by its SIMPLICITY, singability, and distinctly American-folksy style. We hope you will join us and bring your friends to this evening of performance (including soloists Halley Pearlstein & Will Benoit), group singing, food, & fellowship!

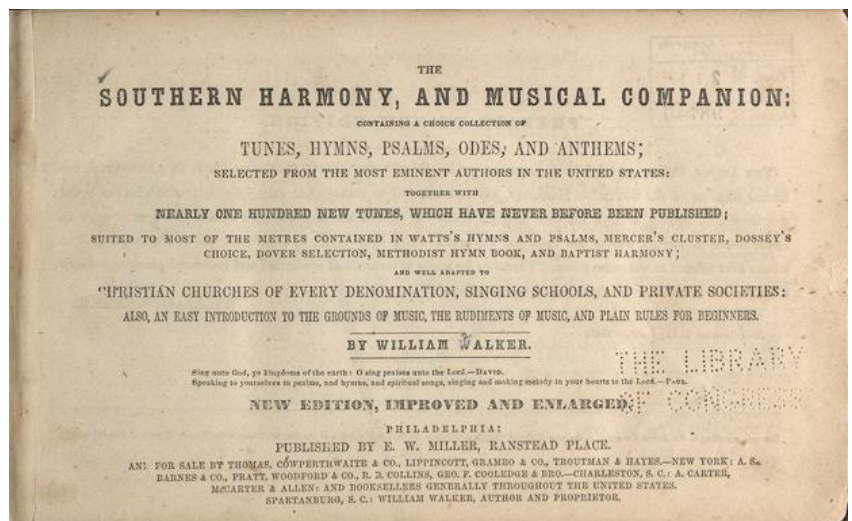
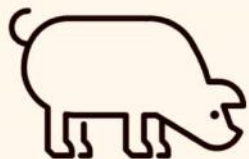


Photo: Library of Congress

# ANNUAL PULLED PORK DINNER

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 – 4 TO 7 PM  
BETHLEHEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



## EAT IN OR TAKE OUT

Features pulled pork w/bun, baked beans casserole, pineapple casserole, coleslaw, beverage, and an assortment of home-baked desserts. No reservations.

COST: Free-Will Donation

LOCATION: 2 Race Street, Pittstown at the corner of Route 513, about a mile south from Exit 15 on I-78.

Sponsored by Bethlehem Presbyterian Women

# Let's do Lunch

All are welcome to our monthly Fellowship Lunch! Happening on October 24th at 11:30am, this month at the Cracker Barrel, 14 Frontage Road, Clinton. Please RSVP to Susan Jacqmein at [seajacqmein@embarqmail.com](mailto:seajacqmein@embarqmail.com) so that we can give the restaurant a head-count!



Remember those you love (past & present) in a special way this Advent season... Purchase a Christmas Wreath or Poinsettia in their honor or memory. Order forms will be available soon, or speak to Audrey DiMarcello (wreaths) or Susan Jacqmein (flowers). Wreaths will decorate our sanctuary through the Advent & Christmas season. Poinsettias will add a special touch to our Christmas Eve worship, and can be taken after the service.

Lebanon Reformed Church invites you to

## PRETTY COOL PUMPKINS

COME DECORATE OR CARVE A PUMPKIN WITH US! ENJOY SOME POPCORN AND FRESH APPLE CIDER TOO!



OCTOBER 26, 2024 AT 2PM  
100 BRUNSWICK AVE.  
LEBANON, NJ 08833

Please RSVP by 10/20  
using QR code or at  
<https://forms.gle/fL6bkhfEvxyjLZ59>



# *Mark Your Calendars...*



## *EVENTS & ACTIVITIES*

It may seem a bit premature... but with so much going on this Advent season, we wanted to make sure these events got on your schedules! We hope you will join in on these special times of fellowship and worship to bring joy and meaning to this holiday season. More details on these events will follow...

Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm

North Hunterdon Ecumenical Fellowship Thanksgiving Service at Spruce Run Lutheran Church.

Sunday December 1<sup>st</sup> 5pm

Fellowship Event: Norz Hill Farm Holiday Lights Hayride

Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-3:00pm

Our Annual HBRC Christmas Bazaar

Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm

Advent Craft Night

Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm

A Christmas music event featuring Parcae

December 22<sup>nd</sup> 7:00pm

"Blue Christmas" Service

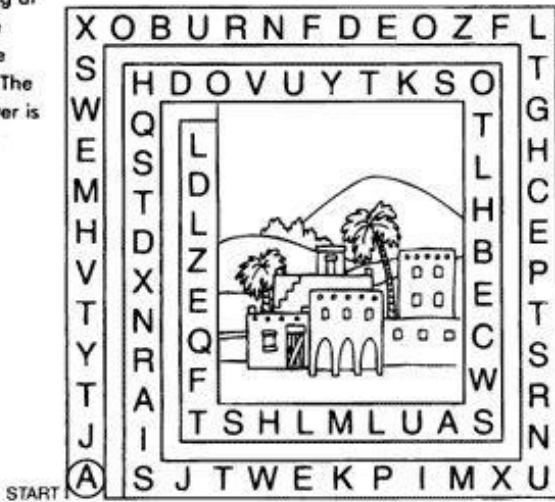
December 24<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 7:00pm

# HBRC Kid's

## Page

God told Joshua to march his army around the city of Jericho once each day for six days. On the seventh day, they were to march around the city seven times. The seventh time around, the priests blew their trumpets and the people shouted. To find out what happened then, circle every other letter beginning at start. Copy the letters onto the spaces below. The first circled letter is done for you.



A \_\_\_\_\_

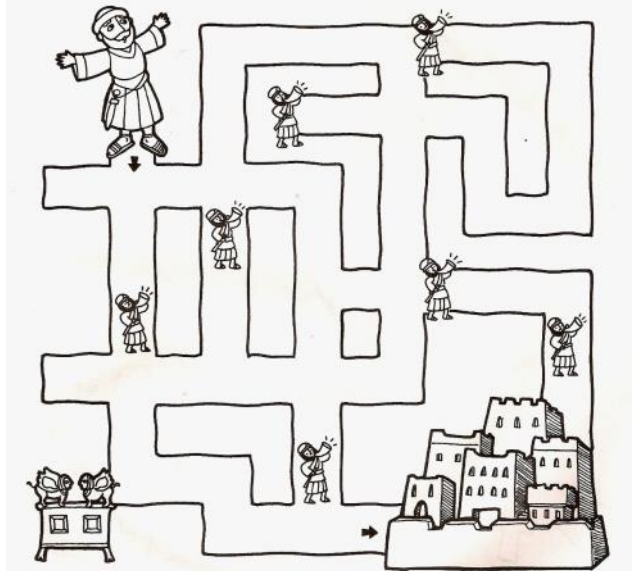
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J A K A T R K L Z C U A V W L A E  
 L W O C Z R G B B K E R D O T W X  
 H R X M O A V Y A L W M A D Y P V  
 J O G A W H X A T G Y Y T Z S R Q  
 G R H R G A L V T X M S B E Q F I  
 O K Y C I B Z V L R Y E B M R H F  
 R X G H T H I N E U P V P X K J Q  
 K X M E X A Q U M H I E O Y Y G E  
 R O A D U V Q Z A S P N Y O W M H  
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 U C E L L A W A Y Q G P H C A Q D  
 G I S O N Z E U F M A U H S O J R  
 H R Y D S L C N L Z F K C Y S Y O  
 U E A H I C Q I M C G O V A Y J L  
 E J D T K B W W T B Y B A J N L Z  
 E M E B J L D F J Y F A L L U T A  
 H S G F T E P M U R T G M N N W D

- |       |            |         |        |
|-------|------------|---------|--------|
| army  | Battle     | city    | days   |
| fall  | Israelites | Jericho | Joshua |
| Lord  | marched    | Nun     | Rahab  |
| seven | trumpet    | wall    |        |



Help Joshua find the city of Jericho.



## Upcoming Events

✝ October 9

Consistory

7pm

✝ October 19

Pulled Pork Dinner

Bethlehem Presbyterian

4-7pm

✝ October 20

Mission and Coffee Hour

✝ October 24

Fellowship Luncheon

Cracker Barrel in Clinton

11:30am

✝ October 26

Pretty Cool Pumpkins

Lebanon Reformed Church

2p

✝ November 9

Southern Harmony

Music Event

## Announcements

- ✝ Communion is the first Sunday of the month.
- ✝ Coffee Hour and Mission is the 3rd Sunday of the month.
- ✝ If you are interested in being on the prayer chain please reach out to Susan.
- ✝ Check the bulletin board for birthdays and anniversaries!

## Bible Study at HBRC

Continuing Thursday mornings at 10:00am: our study on the final book of the Bible, Revelation! Join us for as we look into what these prophecies meant for Christians at the close of the first century, and what they mean for us today.

If you have information you would like to see in the newsletter please reach out to Jess

## Join Our Family...

If you have been attending worship with us in person or online and are interested in becoming a member, please contact Pastor Ed or the church office.

We'd love to have you as part of our family!