

## College Students and Family Members

Please call the church office WITH YOUR ADDRESS at college. Not only do we like to keep in touch with the Tower News, but we need it for the Chocolate Chip Cookie Mailing. No address no cookies.

## FALL BACK

Don't forget, Daylight Savings time ends at 2:00a.m. on October 31. Remember to set your clock **BACK** the night before or you will be very early for church on Sunday.

## Women's Auxiliary presents OPEN HOUSE AT WARWICK

Monday, October 18 & Tuesday, October 19!

Guest speaker will be Carol Mutch, Past President of General Synod. Her topic will be "RELATIONSHIPS."

There will be the dedication of the new Kawai Grand Piano with pianist, Norma Jones.

Music Leaders will be The Rev. Paul and Cathy Kranendonk.

Program and lunch fee is \$12.00.

Registration is appreciated by October 11 if you can. Send to Mrs. Arlene Tenckinck, Warwick Center, PO Box 349, Hoyt Road, Warwick NY 10990

This is a good time to see the NEW MULDER CHAPEL as all activities will be held there.

The Center will welcome donations of Tulip and Daffodil Bulbs to help beautify the grounds. The offering of the day will be applied to the new Kawai Grand Piano.

Enjoy the Fall leaves and the ride for a very special day in the country. Coffee and sign in is 9:30—10:30. Program is 10:30 to 12:30 and Lunch follows at Camp Warwick. Don't miss this fall treat. Get a group together and car pool.

## ONLY ONE ANSWER

Having a happy time? Praise God.

Life getting difficult? Seek God.

Having a quiet moment? Worship God.

Suffering great pain? Trust God.

Puzzled about what to do? Ask God.

Overwhelmed with joy? Thank God.



# THE TOWER NEWS

## THE SECOND REFORMED CHURCH



The Rev. Dennis B. Wilcox, Pastor

Church Telephone: 201-343-7550 ❖ Fax: 343-0590

Anderson, Union & Ward Streets, Hackensack, NJ 07601

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October, 2004

## Afternoon Fellowship Meets Tuesday, October 12 at Noon

Bring a brown bag lunch and enjoy the fellowship before the meeting. A delicious dessert is provided. The meeting and program begins at 12:30 p.m. Save the date—Tuesday, October 12.

Guest speaker will be our friend, Captain Ismael Correa of the Salvation Army. Captain Correa has just returned from helping out with the recovery in Florida. Don't miss his special report. All women of the church are welcome to come and hear his experience.

## Evening Service Guild will Meet on Tuesday, October 12 at 6:00 P.M.

This group will meet for dinner, business and conversation at Rudy's restaurant on Anderson St. in Hackensack. Speak to Lorraine Taylor if you would like to join this group.

## Greeters for October

On Sunday mornings are:

October 3—Harriet & George Arnold

October 10—Marge and Reg King

October 17—Nori & Varkey Abraham

October 24—Marcia Battles

October 31—Jennifer and Carol Wilcox

Please remember if you cannot greet on your assigned date, please alert the office with your replacement.

*Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father in heaven.*

**-Matthew 5:16**

## SEMI-ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE -

**Thursday, October 21 Opening at 10:00A.M. to 8:00 P.M. and Friday, October 22 From 10:00 A.M. to Noon**

THE COMMITTEE HAS EXTENDED THE SHOPPING TIME FOR THIS SALE. MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

Rummage can be brought to the church any weekday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and placed at the bottom of the parking lot staircase.

Helpers are needed on the day of the sale. If you have even one hour to share during the week before the sale or on the days of the sale, please contact Carol Miller or sign up on the Action Table. Many hands make light work.

The Rummage Sale receipts are used for the benevolent giving of the church. Think about how something you no longer need can provide funds for those who do NEED.

## Date to Remember—Sunday, November 7

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY AND ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Elders and Deacons and discussion of the proposed operating budget for 2005.

## CONCERT DATE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, November 14 at 4:00 PM the Salvation Army Youth Band will perform. Look for more details in the next edition of The Tower News!

## HELP WANTED!

The Church School is looking for a person or persons who would be interested in developing and maintaining a scrapbook for the students. We will supply pictures and mementos as well as supplies if you will supply your artistic talents. Please call Jan Keshishian, superintendent at 201/476-1312.

## CHURCH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

**was a real success!**

We welcomed several new children and their families to our church and Sunday school. Thanks to the direction of Rick Cornwell and the Education Committee.

## OUR DEDICATED TEACHERS

We have welcomed two new teachers to our staff, Cindy Dick and Rhea Talbert who are teaching the Nursery and Kindergarten class.

We are happy to have returning teachers:

2nd and 3rd grade—Rick Cornwell and Vicki Cornwell.

4th and 5th grade—Melissa Mulder and Cathy Carisi.

5th and 6th grade—Audrey Michel.

8—12—Karen Rabadan and William Rupp.

Music —Amanda Pascale.

Superintendent—Janet Keshishian.

We appreciate the gift of time each Sunday, and the cooperation of the parents in bringing the children each week.

## THE TOWER NEWS

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Sunday School 10:00 A.M.  
Worship Service 10:00 A.M.  
Adult Education 11:15 A.M.

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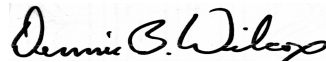
## PASTOR'S PEN FOR OCTOBER

The children are back in Sunday School, worship is back in the sanctuary, and all is back to "normal"? Normal? With hurricanes and the presidential election coming up—both of which keep us going in circles — both physically and emotionally, "normal" hardly seems to be the normative word.

All of that brings us to the reason for normal. We need normal to keep us on an even keel. We need kids back in school learning; it is a great promise...to know they are learning and growing and developing for the future. It is our vote of confidence in the future. So is the presidential election process. Believe it or not, voting is a vote of confidence for the future. Sure, it's tough to decide whom to vote for. Sure, there are times when we don't know who to vote for, but participating in the process is the price we pay in order to improve, change, or at least be able to complain about it. No vote, no voice! And that's for either praising or panning the results. Voting keeps us, the public, in the mix. We keep the politicians honest with our vote. We get to demand facts, not fiction. We keep it normal, on an even keel, and over the long run the best system yet. We are the normal ones, not the politicians. Ultimately they have to please us, and if they don't—they go...if we vote.

So, here we are, back to normal. WE may or may not change the leadership in the White House. Whatever we do, there won't be blood in the streets. Life will go on, normally, as it always has, if we do our part and VOTE...and remember our national motto: In God WE Trust. We don't trust politicians, or the public for that matter. However, we Christians believe that if we do our part and trust in God, he will bless us. Be faithful, go vote.

Expectantly yours,



Dennis B. Wilcox  
Pastor

### Book Club Selection for October and November

The group will meet on Monday, October 4 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss "The Nazi Officer's Wife" by Edith Han Beer.

The selection for November is "Easter Island" by Jennifer Vander Bes. The book for December is "Tuesdays With Morrie" by Mitch Albom.

### Would You Like to participate in the Prayer Chain?

### Sign Up on the Action Table.

We have had many notes of thanks for the prayers that were offered. If you have a special need, call the church office or Elder Carol Miller with your request.

### Craft and Chat Group

Craft and Chat Group meets every Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the church. Consider joining our happy, crafty group. You don't need to know crafts, knitting or crocheting perfectly, just come down and join the fun. You are welcome any time you can come. This is an ongoing group.

## LABOR DAY BBQ WAS A REAL SUCCESS!

This summer brought to us an opportunity to respond to Jesus' command to, "love your neighbor". On Labor Day, the mission committee sponsored a BBQ. They had 20 members of our church family represent Jesus and our congregation to our community, while sharing the BBQ with 50 of our neighbors in need.

The weather was perfect, the food was great, the fellowship was wonderful, the blessings are still being felt.

To all who gave their time and worked so hard to make this day as special as it was, thank you.

Oswald Chambers wrote that the answer to the question, "Who is my neighbor?" is not to be found in the claim of the person to be loved, but in the heart of the one who loves, and so by your examples, I saw what it is to be a good neighbor.

Mission Committee

### Do You Know Large Print Books are Available?

Since we now have the Monday monthly book club meetings, we would encourage those individual who, though not legally blind, can no longer read standard print with ease, but can read large print or use "Talking Book" cassettes.

The NJ LBH Library offers these "Talking Books" and equipment as well as high-quality recordings of books and magazines including inspirational, religious, and popular works. All services and mailing costs are FREE! Order over the phone and it is sent directly to your home through the mail. Call 1-800-792-8322 or 1 877-882-5593 for information. You will be glad you did and you can then be a part of the Book Club. Give it a try, and join the group.

### Fellowship Time

Volunteers are needed to serve refreshments following worship. All you have to do is serve and help to clean up. Forest and Grace Brown prepare the coffee and lemonade. It couldn't be any easier. This is a good way to meet others in the congregation. Please sign up on the Action table. There is plenty of room left for this year. You will be glad you did.

*The Missions Committee and the*

*Salt of the Earth Ministry for the Homeless hosted a Community Outreach BBQ on Labor Day. The BBQ and fellowship was well received by our neighbors. We had approximately 50 people in attendance including church members, friends and neighbors.*

### "Attitude Adjustor"

Jerry is the manager of a restaurant in South Philly. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him "how he was doing", he would always reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!"

Many of the waiters at his restaurant quit their jobs when he changed jobs, so they could follow him around from restaurant to restaurant. The reason the waiters followed Jerry was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Jerry was always there, telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious. So, one day, I went up to Jerry and asked him, "I don't get it! No one can be a positive person all the time. How do you do it?" Jerry replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, I have two choices today, I can choose to be in a good mood or I can choose to be in a bad mood. I always choose to be in a good mood.

Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose

to learn from it. I always choose to learn from it.

"Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I always choose the positive side of life."

"But it's not always that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," Jerry said, Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. It's your choice how you live your life."

Several years later, I heard that Jerry accidentally did something you are never supposed to do in the restaurant business: he left the back door of his restaurant open one morning and was robbed by three armed men. While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found quickly and rushed to the hospital. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Want to see my scar?" I declined to see his wounds, but did as ask him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door" Jerry replied. "Then, after they shot me, as I lay on the floor, I

remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or choose to die. I chose to live." "Weren't you scared?" I asked. Jerry continued, "The paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the Emergency Room and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read 'He's a dead man.' I knew I needed to take action. "what did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything." 'Yes,' I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, "Bullets!" Over their laughter, I told them, "I am choosing to live. Please operate on me as if I am alive, not dead."

Jerry lived thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day you have the choice to either enjoy your life or to hate it. The only thing that is truly yours—that no one can control or take from you is your attitude, so if you can take care of that, everything else in life becomes much easier.

*This article was submitted by Donna Abraham, a member, to Pastor Wilcox to share with the congregation. Donna grew up in our church and we are sorry that she is not able to attend worship very often due to multiple sclerosis. She practices this message daily and wanted to share it.*



*The Education Committee held its Church School Open House on Saturday the 11th of September. Many church members came to make new people feel welcome to our church. Pictured, members are getting the crafts room and popcorn machine ready for visitors. We were also very fortunate to have the popcorn machine available to us for refreshment hour after worship on Sunday.*