



## Announcements and Events – May 14, 2023

### Today is Youth Sunday

Welcome to Youth Sunday at BRPC! We are overjoyed that you are joining us today. The Middle School and Senior High Fellowship groups have been working hard and are excited to welcome you all into the Sanctuary to worship God together.

### Upcoming Special Events

- May 21: Ordination and Installation of Newly Elected Elders, Deacons & Trustees
- June 4: Children's Musical & Dedication Ceremony for Oak Tree Cross Section in Westminster Hall
- June 11: Confirmation Sunday, Maine Workcamp Commissioning & Senior High Car Wash following worship

### Youth and Young Adult Ministry

- There will be no Bibles & Bagels, Confirmation Class or MS/SH Fellowship held today.
- Senior High Workcamp will once again return to Pemaquid, ME and the Carpenters Boat Shop, from July 8-16, to do mission work in the surrounding communities together with skilled carpenters and advisors. The theme this year will be entitled "Built to Last" focusing on Ephesians 2:20.
- Middle School Workcamp will take place July 24-28. The MS Youth will serve Camp Johnsonburg July 24-26 and then return home locally to work with Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity on July 27-28. The theme this year will be entitled "Light the Fire" focusing on Romans 12:11-13.

### Children & Family Ministry Programs, Upcoming Events & Sign-ups

- There will be no Sunday School today. Nursery Care is available every week.
- Tuesday Midweek program, 4:15 p.m. in Westminster Hall & Sanctuary.

### Music Education Scholarship

Are you in grades 6 through 12 and study vocal or instrumental music? We encourage you to apply for the Nancy Childs Knobloch Music Scholarship. This scholarship supports music education of youth in our church family, and is intended to help with tuition for pre-college, chorus or similar music programs, or private lessons. To be eligible, you must be a member or child of a member of the church. Applications are available for pick up in the Church Office and at BRPC.org under Music Ministries. Please contact Chris Fortin at 908.766.1616 x22 or cfortin@brpc.org if you have questions. Applications are due May 31, 2023.

### Stephen Ministry Presents: Medicare/Medicaid 101 - Sunday, June 4

Join us in the Church House Parlor at 2 p.m. as our own Mark Barnard helps us navigate through the confusing world of Medicare and Medicaid. Mark has many years of experience in the healthcare industry and will help to make sense of the various Medicare programs as well as answer general questions you may have.

### Creation Care Events

For more information and to register, go to [brpc.org/creation-care/](https://brpc.org/creation-care/).

- Regenerative Living: Gardens and other Spaces, Sunday, May 21, during Fellowship Hour. Learn from Rutgers Master Gardeners of Somerset County how certain plants and practices nurture the Earth.
- The Theology of Food, Thursday, May 25, 7-9 p.m. (pre-registration required). Do our food choices reflect our values? Cooking demonstration and tasting with Ellen Petrosino, RD.

## **Westminster Hall Kitchen Project**

The heart of any home is the kitchen. It is where families and friends come together for nourishment not only of their bodies, but also of their hearts and minds. They gather to share meals, laughter, stories of their day and words of affirmation and support. Although our sacred space is the Sanctuary, the heart of our fellowship and church family activities revolves around our kitchen! Today, our kitchen remains the critical “room where it happens” for many of our congregational events, such as Pancake Suppers, Eggstravaganza, Lenten Lunches, Souper Sunday, and more. The kitchen plays a vital role in our ability to minister to our church family, as well as provide outreach to the broader community.

In the 1950’s, BRPC members constructed a large kitchen that was state of the art at that time. Visualize the ladies in their dresses, heels, with gloves & hats and the men in suits driving them to church for Sunday worship. Meals were served through a cafeteria line in the kitchen and members would gather in Westminster Hall around tables as they broke bread together. Today our members do the best they can with what we have in the kitchen. There are functional challenges with some of our appliances and issues with old plumbing, infrastructure and equipment. The kitchen requires updating to become a more functional, aesthetically pleasing, and welcoming space for fellowship and outreach.

The upgrade has been on the “to-do list” for a long time. About twenty years ago, a group of members started to work on a new kitchen design. However, the cost of the project was daunting. With no funding in the church budget, and a sense that congregational funding would be cost prohibitive, moving to the construction phase was put on hold.

We strongly believe that God is calling us to bring this renovation to fruition at this time. Now, there is a Westminster Hall Kitchen Renovation Project in the works! A task force was created including Rev. Dennis Jones, Cara Burchett (Church Administrator), Nancy Deutsch (President of Trustees), Bill Adams, Patty Haines, Barbara Knudson, Sue Pape, Debbie Schaub, Joelle Strona, and our team leader, Dave Gibbons. Through their efforts, an architectural design firm, Studio 1200, was chosen and an initial floor plan was created using congregational input funneled through the task force. While generous leadership gifts have provided an enormous head start, we need YOUR help to get this project to the finish line. With your financial support, we are hopeful that by late summer, Enterprise Construction & Development will begin the demo work...and the construction phase will begin.

God is calling us to create a kitchen where His work will thrive and where community outreach and congregational fellowship will prosper. \$250,000 is the total cost of the project. BRPC has received initial leadership commitments of \$100,000 so we are well on our way! We are asking for your help to provide the remaining outstanding amount of \$150,000 needed to complete the project. We cannot move forward without YOUR support. Please prayerfully consider the opportunities on the “Gift Registry” and contribute to the Westminster Hall Kitchen Renovation Project! Our goal is to receive the funding commitments by June 30 so the construction phase may begin on schedule.

Thank you for your prayers and generous support, which will enable BRPC to continue its legacy of service and spirit of hospitality to future generations!

In Christ,  
The 2023 Kitchen Task Force