

SECOND THOUGHTS

www.secondreformednb.org

What I Believe

This is the first of a series of articles of "What Church Members Believe", based on the Bible and prayer, not someone else's thoughts. I hope others will also contribute.

Abortion: I oppose abortion as a means of avoiding responsibility for conception, or as a means of birth control, without regard for the consequences of the act.

Christian Marriage: In Genesis 2:24, the Bible states: "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh."

When a man and woman marry, they unite as one spirit physically and they pass on the blessings of God in life. "Go forth and multiply". Two men (or two women) can not produce a child. It is with God's blessing that a child is produced.

Jesus speaks to us on marriage in Matthew 19:4. "Haven't you read", he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female' and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'. So they are

By Elder Hap Harris

no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." Jesus clearly states that marriage is for man and woman, and people should not try to change it.

Regarding contracts between two people of the same sex, this authority comes from the government, not from the church.

These are my views as a Christian, not as a liberal or a conservative.

In Christ's Love, Hap Harris

AN UPDATE FROM OUR KIDS ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION....

Hey Kids This Article is about You!

The Sunday School class is about halfway to meeting its goal of raising \$125 this spring so a goat may be purchased for a family in Africa for food and income.

Please kids, remember to bring your Sunday School offering each week.

Thank God for all you have, be generous as you share from your gifts

to help a family that has almost nothing. A very generous adult in our church has agreed to donate a second goat if the kids reach their goal!

Parents, We have been studying about the life of Jesus this spring. We also discussed the meaning of communion and the events of Holy Week during Lent. Take time to talk to your kids about the les-

sons, and see what they can tell you. Especially important if you allow your child to receive the sacrament of communion, is to go over often (or on the first Sunday of each month on the way to church) why we partake of the bread and wine (juice). Thank you.

Phyllis Beals



**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN ARTICLE FOR THE MAY NEWSLETTER IS:
WEDNESDAY MAY 25TH**

NEIGHBOR'S BREAKFAST

We will be having our second Neighbor's Breakfast on Sunday, **April 24th** in Demarest Hall (the gym) at 8:30 am. This time, we will be offering communion to the participants. This will be opened to the men & women of nearby shelters and their friends & families. If you would like to volunteer your time and/or donate to the breakfast, please contact Hap Harris.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- 4—Toni Patton
- 4—Andoria Tjondrokoesoemo
- 5—Christian Orban
- 7—Jamie Mount
- 12—Lew Scudder
- 13—Margaret Paterson
- 15—Amy Goodwin & Kelly McWilliams
- 18—Rachel Lauren Fisher
- 19—Thomas Phillips
- 21—Barbara McWilliams
- 22—Jo Mickelson
- 23—Richard Phillips

3— Helmut Horr, Dave Howarth, Curly Boelhouver & Hap Harris

USHERS

- 10— The Howarth Family
- 17— The Chibbaro Family
- 24—The Beals Family

Coffee Hosts

- 3—The Beals Family
- 10—Toni & Bob Patton
- 17—George & Sue Wade
- 24—The VanGlahn Family



April 2005



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Outside Group
Communion 10:00 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Christian Ed 11:20 am	4	5 Outside Group Event Gym 6-12pm	6	7 McWilliams Wedding Rehearsal 6:30 pm	8 McWilliams Wedding 4:30 pm	9
10 Worship 10:00 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Christian Ed 11:20 am	11 Outside Group Event Gym 6-11pm	12 Women's Lunch 12:00 pm	13	14	15 Outside Grp Event Gym 6-12 CAMP WARWICK COUPON DEADLINE HARVEY CEDARS	16 Harvey Cedars Mid-Atlantic Event
17 Worship 10:00 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Chrisitan Ed 11:20 am	18	19 Consistory Meeting 7:00 pm	20	21	22 Outside Group Event Gym 6-11pm	23
24 Neighbor's Breakfast 8:30 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Hour 11:00 am Christian Ed 11:20 am	25 Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm	<p>HUMOROUS BUMPER STICKERS</p> <p>Prodigal Son: "All roads lead to home."</p> <p>At the Sinai desert: "Winding road next 40 years"</p> <p>At the Red Sea: "Caution! Subject to sudden flooding"</p>				

Keeping God's House in Order

Gail and Christian Orban have been our housekeepers since Dec. 2003. They work about 19 hours a week cleaning the sanctuary, classrooms, Offices and stairs. We discussed what is going well.

If you see a problem or need, please leave a message in Kathy's mailbox, and she will pass it along to Gail. Gail and Christian want to know if there are problems so they can correct them. Thank You Gail and Christian for your service!

Phyllis Beals



SAVE THE DATE!!

Friday, June 10th

**REV. JAMES ESTHER'S
RETIREMENT PARTY!!!**

More Festive Details to Come....

Easter Health Kits

The total collected from the Easter Offering designated for the Church World Service, currently is **\$260.00**

As you know, this money and donated supplies will be used for packaging health-care items for people of need. You still have time! The Missions Committee is accepting cash and supply donations until **April 17th**. The donation box is located in the foyer on your way to coffee hour or you may drop a check in the mail and designate it "CWS-Health Kit".



NEWS FROM WARWICK

ATTENTION CAMPERS: APRIL 15TH DEADLINE

You can take \$30.00 off of your camp Warwick fees. How you ask? By contacting Kathy Fisher. She has the \$30.00 coupons in her office. You must act quickly, your registration must be postmarked by **APRIL 15TH** in order to cash in on this early bird discount. She also has Camp Warwick brochures in her office for the taking!

Prayer Fire Weekend

On **May 6-7** at the Warwick Center in Warwick, NY, the Warwick Center is sponsoring a pray weekend. This weekend is for people who want to pray, need prayer personally and need God. This weekend is also for people needing God's direction. If you would like to know more, please see Kathy Fisher for a brochure and weekend schedule. More information is at www.prayerfire.org or you may call the Synod of the Mid-Atlantics 732 545-1840.

Reformed Church Women: Last Call!

RCW of the Mid-Atlantics invites you to gather **April 15-16**, 2005 with Mary Clark, Retreat Leader. Leading the music will be the Ocean Community Church Praise Band from Manahawkin. This annual event takes place at the Harvey Cedars Conference Center, Long Beach Island, NJ; Friday 7:30 pm—Saturday 5:30 pm supper. Check in on Friday is between 4:00—7:30 pm. See Kathy Fisher for registration materials.