About . . .

BERGEN
REFORMED
CHURCH

1660 - 1960

Bergen & Highland Avenues
Jersey City, New Jersey
HER HISTORY

DATES BACK . . .

- to the Church of Jesus Christ or the Catholic Church, Reformed.

- to the Reformation of the 16th Century, hence the name “Reformed” . . .

- to the founding of the oldest, continuous protestant church in America. The Dutch Reformed Church of Amsterdam, (now New York City) April, 1628.

- to 1819 when the General Synod changed the Church name from the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of North America to the Reformed Dutch Church.

- to 1867 when the name was again changed to The Reformed Church in America, the name it still bears.

- to 1660, before November 27th, this Church was established in Bergen (now Jersey City).

- to 1680, when the first building, exclusively for church purposes was erected.

- to 1773 when a new and larger edifice was erected.

- to 1842 when the present building was completed and dedicated July 14, 1842.
HER FAITH AND PRACTICE

- **In Faith and Doctrine . . .**
  Biblical and Evangelical.

- **In Worship . . .**
  Free—with use of Liturgy for Communion and Baptism.

- **In Government . . .**
  Presbyterian and democratic.

- **In Outreach . . .**
  Local, national, worldwide-evangelistic and missionary.

- **In Spirit . . .**
  Fraternal—freely sharing her pulpit with ministers of other evangelical denominations, and welcoming to Holy Communion members of sister evangelical churches.

- **In Cooperation . . .**
  The Reformed Church in America is affiliated with the World Presbyterian Alliance; it is an active cooperating member of both the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and the World Council of Churches.

- **In Witness . . .**
  For three hundred years, Bergen Reformed Church has conducted a challenging program of Christian worship and witness in Jersey City. With joy and enthusiasm, “we proclaim Christ, that we may present every man mature in Him.”
HER EDIFICE

• Its Architecture . . .
  Doric-Greek

• Its Designers and Builders . . .
  William H. Kirk & Co.—Clark & Van Nest.

• Its Materials . . .
  Sand stone. Some original stones from former two edifices. (Holland)

• Its Sanctuary . . .
  Will seat approximately 800 and is equipped with a Moller organ and Schulmerich electronic Carillons.

• Its Chapel . . .
  Honoring those of this Church who served in World Wars I and II, will seat approximately 80 persons and is equipped with a Hammond electronic organ.
• **Its Brett Hall . . .**

Will seat approximately 450 in assembly and 200 when served at tables. It includes all modern kitchen facilities.
The second floor includes many special facilities such as the Church office, a spacious parlor with kitchenette and a music room.
The third floor is equipped to take care of the educational needs of the church school, including a library.

(The ushers will gladly make arrangements with visitors for a tour of the facilities.)

**HER PROGRAM**

• **For Worship . . .**

Morning worship services each Sunday . . . appropriate services in observance of all special days of the church year . . . Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper celebrated five times a year. Baptism by appointment with the pastor.

• **For Instruction . . .**

Sunday School preceding morning worship services with classes for all age groups, including Mothers and Adult class. Devotional meetings for all youths on Sunday evenings. Instruction for communicants once a week.

• **For Music . . .**

Special Quartet — volunteer senior and junior choirs, Orangist—Director of Music.

• **For Fellowship . . .**

Opportunity for fellowship and service are abundant for all age groups. In addition to many varied activities appealing to the diversified interests of a cosmopolitan congregation, there are organized fellowship
groups — The Evening Guild; Women’s Guild; Ladies Aid Society; World Fellowship Guild; Married Couples Club; Singleton’s; Old Bergen Soldiers of The Cross (youth group); The Everyman’s Bible Class of Jersey City; The Women’s Bible Class; Boy Scout Troop No. 72; Girl Scout Troop No. 128 and Cub Pack No. 72.

- **For Council . . .**
  The minister is available during the church year for personal consultation and welcomes such opportunities of service. Calling the Church office for an appointment will permit the Church Secretary to simplify these arrangements for you.

- **For Membership . . .**
  Bergen Reformed Church welcomes into its Christian fellowship those seeking a church affiliation. Membership may be by confession of faith, by re-affirmation of faith, or by transfer of letter from other churches. The minister, Deacons, and Elders are available after each service to discuss church membership.

- **Nursery . . .**
  During the Sunday morning worship service, a Nursery is maintained under the supervision of competent trained personnel, for 3, 4, and 5 year olds.
300th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Honorary Chairman
Rev. John J. Soeter

General Chairman
Edward A. Jones

Co-Chairmen
*John R. Williams        Harry E. Dinsmore

Secretary
George H. Reitze

Tercentenary Fund
Miss Elsie B. Maccracken, Chairman

Program
Albert H. Doerr, Chairman

Dinner
Mrs. William Tully, Chairman

Speakers
Earle C. Russell, Chairman

Publicity
Mrs. A. Stanley Myers, Chairman

Music
Warren E. Norberg, Chairman

Building and Grounds
William Tully, Chairman

Historical
Harvey B. Nelson, Chairman

*Deceased
This Anniversary Booklet has been prepared by the Tercentenary Membership Committee

Robert H. Foulkes, Chairman

Miss Florence Maccracken  Lester Van Pelt
Mrs. Harry E. Dinsmore     Miss Louise Hooper
Mrs. Samuel Garrison       Mrs. William Tully
Miss Elizabeth Mackey      Miss Martha Hadden
Mrs. Bruce McCamant        Mrs. James Glassey
Mrs. Katherine L. Reed     Mr. Thomas Davis
Mrs. Mary B. Williams      Mrs. Murray Nilsen