

# Brookville Multifaith Campus



*A Doorway to Mutual  
Understanding*

## NEWS

April  
2021

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545  
[www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org](http://www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org)

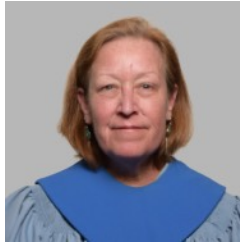
Facebook: [Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus)  
Email: [Brookvillemfc@gmail.com](mailto:Brookvillemfc@gmail.com)

### *Brookville Church*

516-626-0414 [BrookvilleChurch.org](http://BrookvilleChurch.org)  
[brookvillechurch@gmail.com](mailto:brookvillechurch@gmail.com)



Rev. Vicky L. Eastland  
Pastor  
[vickyleastland@gmail.com](mailto:vickyleastland@gmail.com)



Carol Goglia  
Minister of Music  
[cgoglia@aol.com](mailto:cgoglia@aol.com)

### *The New Synagogue of Long Island*

[newsynagogue-li.org](http://newsynagogue-li.org)  
[newsynagogue.li@gmail.com](mailto:newsynagogue.li@gmail.com)



Rabbi Stuart A. Paris  
HaKohen  
[rabbiparis@gmail.com](mailto:rabbiparis@gmail.com)



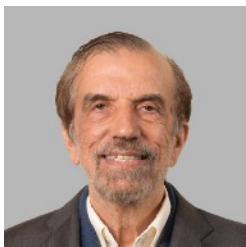
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Rabbi Scott Matous  
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### *Muslim Reform Movement Organization. MRMO.org*

[muslimreform@hotmail.com](mailto:muslimreform@hotmail.com)



Dr. Sultan  
Abdulhameed  
[muslimreform@hotmail.com](mailto:muslimreform@hotmail.com)



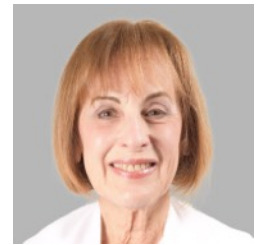
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### *The Interfaith Community of Long Island*

[info@interfaithli.org](mailto:info@interfaithli.org) [Interfaithli.org](http://Interfaithli.org)



Rev. Bill McBride &  
Cantor Irene Failenbogen  
Directors of Education  
[irenetunes@aol.com](mailto:irenetunes@aol.com)



Rev. Enid Kessler  
Spiritual Advisor  
[interfaith4you@gmail.com](mailto:interfaith4you@gmail.com)

#### **Vision Statement**

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world.

#### **Mission**

To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences.

#### **Find a Place to Belong**

We invite you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Together we promote cross cultural understanding, peace building, and a strong commitment to service. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

## Some thoughts from campus leaders



Rev. Vicky  
Eastland

### Our Story

In 1732 Protestant Dutch Reformed settlers formed a congregation in what is now known as Brookville, New York, making it one of the oldest churches in the United States. As like other Dutch Reformed churches, Brookville Church has gone through many changes over the last 289 years. What began as an all Dutch speaking congregation gave way during the Civil War to worship services conducted in English. Today, Brookville Church is a welcoming, friendly and heartfelt community who follows the teachings of Jesus; a message of love, acceptance, healing and hope. We affirm that all people are beloved children of God, embracing any age, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, marital status, family configuration, physical or mental ability or education.

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Dr. Sultan  
Abdulhameed

### Looking Forward to Ramadan 1442

Ramadan this year will begin on April 13 and it will end on May 12. It is a month of self-renewal for Muslims. It gives us an opportunity to examine our lives and re-center on principles of wisdom. We seek to emerge from the month stronger physically as well as spiritually. There are many blessings in Ramadan, here we discuss three basic aspects that can help us.

#### Better Eating Habits

The hadith of prophet Muhammad in which he says: *"Fast for you will become healthy,"* sets the goal for us.

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Christine  
Mankes

### Making a Difference

We all have our own stories of how we joined the Interfaith Community of Long Island (IFCLI.) Many of us felt a need for support, community and connection. Some of us have been members of the IFCLI community for more than 15 years, while others have just recently joined.

We look back at many memories that have become interwoven in the lives of our families. Shared holidays - those in which 50+ members have sat together at a Seder table and more recently, those that we shared via zoom! We have shared births, marriages, losses, illness and joys together. We have watched our children's rite of passage ceremonies, we have joined in singing together, performed works of community service together, observed our kids interacting with other children of interfaith backgrounds, and worked collaboratively to produce worship services and musical productions.

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Rabbi  
Stuart Paris,  
HaKohen

### The Second Passover

Passover (Pesach in Hebrew) is known as the "Holiday of Freedom." It commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. The eight-day festival of Passover is celebrated in the early spring, from the 15th through the 22nd of the Hebrew month of Nissan, which usually falls sometime in March or April. (This year it corresponded to March 27<sup>th</sup> – April 4<sup>th</sup>.) Passover is regarded as the "birth" of the Jewish nation, and its lessons of struggle and identity continue to form the basis of Jewish consciousness today.

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## Our Story ...continued from page 2

We invite the full inclusion of all people into the life and ministries of Brookville Church. We believe diversity enriches our journey together in faith and propels us to an ever expanding understanding and experience of God.

In 2013, Brookville Church launched the Brookville Multifaith Campus, making it a forerunner in our community as the only known house of faith on Long Island that welcomes all faiths to their campus. This inclusive spirit began over 25 years ago when the Jewish Congregation of Brookville found a home at Brookville Church.

Close to 20 years ago, Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed began the Muslim Reform Movement Organization (MRMO) and began holding a Quran study group at Brookville Church. The MRMO seeks to revitalize Islam as a dynamic and viable religion, in tune with the realities of the post-modern world, by extrapolating the Universal Truths revealed to humankind in the Quran and studying the Quranic principles and ideals in a contemporary context. MRMO is now part of Brookville Multifaith Campus' family.

The Jewish Congregation of Brookville has since gone, but in 2012 the New Synagogue of Long Island (NSLI) led by Rabbi Stuart Paris, Rabbi Scott Matous, and Cantor Irene Failenbogen, chose our campus as its permanent home. The New Synagogue of Long Island, a synagogue for spiritual Judaism, is a unique congregation with a liberal theology. Their congregants come from all walks of life both Jewish and non-Jewish. Their

non-traditional approach is embodied in everything they do. A bi-weekly Shabbat service is held along with all high holy day services with no membership fees.

In 2013, The Interfaith Community of Long Island (IFCLI), made up of families who are Jewish and Christian and are raising their children with a respect for both faith traditions, also chose our campus as their permanent home. IFCLI is committed to the continuity of religion and to strong families. Responding to the rapidly growing number of interfaith families who want to respect

both their religious heritages, IFCLI aims to provide balanced education in a safe and neutral environment; nurture the distinctiveness of both Judaism and Christianity and support individuals and families as they pursue their own course.

Cantor Irene Failenbogen and her husband Rev. Bill McBride are the Directors of Education, with Rev. Enid Kessler as Spiritual Advisor. Children's classes for ages 3 to 14 are held once a month and taught by both a Jewish and Christian Educator. These interfaith families have a dual faith home, for their

church and synagogue share the same space here at Brookville.

The mission of Brookville Multifaith Campus is to build a community made up of different faith traditions who promote peace through creative programming, essential partnerships and meaningful relationships. Each faith group maintains its own religious identity but our campus fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.



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## Our Story ...continued from page 3

Brookville Multifaith Campus is open and affirming to the LGBTQIA+ community and all faith groups are rostered with Room for All - an advocacy group working for full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ in the Reformed Church in America. See [www.roomforall.com](http://www.roomforall.com) for more information.



In spring of 2017 a Peace Pole was dedicated on the front lawn exclaiming, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in Dutch representing Brookville Church's heritage, Arabic to reflect the Muslim Reform Movement Organization, Hebrew to represent the New Synagogue of Long Island and in English for the Interfaith Community of Long Island.

The campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and

lasting impact in the community and around the world. Faith groups meet independently and anyone is welcome at any of the gatherings and worship services. There are occasional joint

multifaith worship celebrations, as well as adult learning opportunities and service projects. There is a yearly Multifaith Thanksgiving Celebration where the campus clergy preach from each other's holy scriptures.

The majority of people who visit, express similar experiences of encountering a palpable peace on the campus. Whoever comes will find a welcoming hand in any of the faith groups, for Brookville Multifaith Campus provides a doorway to mutual understanding.

Peace, Shalom, Salaam,

*~ Rev. Vicky*



Join Brookville Church  
for an  
Easter Worship Celebration  
(on Zoom)  
April 4 @ 10 a.m.

Request Link at  
[BrookvilleChurch@gmail.com](mailto:BrookvilleChurch@gmail.com)

## The Second Passover

...continued from page 2

A year after the exodus from Egypt, G-d instructed the Israelites to remember the night that the Angel of Death passed over any Jewish home that had been sprinkled with the lamb's blood. They were to celebrate the feast and bring an offering to G-d in its honor. They were to eat of the roasted lamb, together with matzah and bitter herbs, as they had done the previous year when they left Egypt. However, some could not participate. They approached Moses and Aaron and were concerned that they were going to be deprived of the chance to be right with G-d. They asked what should be done. G-d responded.

The Second Passover (*Pesach Sheni*) is celebrated one month after *Pesach* on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the Hebrew month of *Iyar* (this year corresponding to April 26<sup>th</sup>). It marks the day when someone who was unable to participate in the Passover offering in the proper time would observe the *mitzvah* exactly one month later. There is no seder, no four cups of wine, no reading from the *Haggadah*. *Pesach Sheni* (Second Passover) is not about cleaning and cooking and sitting through seders, nor is it a weeklong festival of eating matzah. It is a one-day celebration of G-d's message to us that it is never too late. *Pesach Sheni* is about second chances.

Sometimes our second chances come as small incidents during otherwise uneventful days. We speak hurtful words, catch ourselves, and apologize, or we miss an important deadline and are subsequently granted an extension. Other times, we must look inward. We admit to G-d, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs. We present our defects of character, our passions, our habits. We beg G-d to

remove the obstacles to our spiritual, emotional, and physical well-being. We become more connected with our Creator. We become closer to G-d.

In admitting our shortcomings, we have another opportunity to renew our relationship with G-d. We can become acquainted with our true selves. We can repair strained relationships with others. No one is ever too lost or too forgone to make amends in their lives. We can rebound. We can redefine our past and mold our future. But for this to be real, it needs to come from deep within. It is all about the inner cry - the resolve that we must make change a reality in our lives.

We all make mistakes. We were not created as perfect individuals who can always make balanced judgements. But the good news is that G-d gives

us one day a year when we celebrate our humanity. Even when we make the worst possible error, there is no cause for despair. Quite the contrary, there is cause for acknowledgement, resolve, and then action. We bring



ourselves to G-d as we are - defects and all. It does not matter how old we are, how lost we have been, or where we are in our lives today. We ask G-d to give us a second chance. G-d obliges. What an incredible gift!

There are those who debate whether the glass is half-full or half-empty. And then there are those who realize that the glass is refillable. Refill your glass! Take your Second Chance!

*"If not now, when?"*

*Rabbi Hillel (Ethics of the Fathers, 1:14)*

With my best wishes for a *Happy Passover Sheni*,

*Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen*

# SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH VIRTUAL SHABBAT SERVICE 5781

ב'ה

## The New Synagogue of Long Island The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism

Rabbi Stuart Paris, Hakohen  
Rabbi Scott Matous  
Cantor Irene Failenbogen

### **Synagogue of the Month Virtual Shabbat Service at 7:00 PM**

Please join us on Fridays:  
April 9 & 23, 2021

The Zoom Meeting link is the same. Save it as a Favorite!

If you need the link, please email:

**Amy Schombs:** [amy@interfaithli.org](mailto:amy@interfaithli.org)

**We have no membership dues or fees. All are welcome.**

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can. Your contributions are the life blood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

**Kindly send your responses to:**

**Rabbi Stuart Paris ~ 10 Cuttermill Road, Suite 302 ~ Great Neck, NY 11021**  
**[NewSynagogue.LI@gmail.com](mailto:NewSynagogue.LI@gmail.com) ~ [www.newsynagogue-li.org](http://www.newsynagogue-li.org)**

I / We are happy to join you for the Synagogue of the Month Service.

Enclosed is a free will donation made out to **The New Synagogue of Long Island:**

\_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$75    \_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$180    Other Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Looking Forward to Ramadan 1442

...continued from page 2

At another time, when asked why he and his companions were so healthy, he said: *"We are a people who do not eat when we are not hungry, and when we eat we do not fill ourselves"*. This is timeless wisdom. In modern nutrition science, eating less is called 'Calorie Restriction'. Please look up the evidence (at a reputable source such as National Institute of Health or WebMD) to learn how it protects from diseases and leads to a healthy and longer life. The practice of fasting is designed to train us to develop this habit. By choosing to go without food through the day, experiencing hunger and not eating, day after day for a month, a person can learn to say no to food even when not fasting.

Fasting can help us become healthy if we practice it the way it was intended, that is, learn to overcome the temptation of food. If, on the other hand, a person fasts during the day but overeats in the evening he or she has defeated the purpose of the fast.

In order to be healthy we also want to pay attention to *what* we eat or drink. Every aya in the Quran related to food begins with the advice that we eat what is *tayyib* which is translated as pure and wholesome. Our bodies are made up of what we eat, and, we owe it to ourselves to give up unhealthy foods that we are used to. It is easy to look up health impact of what we eat and make wise choices.

There is overwhelming medical evidence that excessive eating leads to obesity, which is related to a large number of diseases: high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, arthritis, several types of cancer, Alzheimer's, abdominal hernias, varicose veins, gout and other diseases.

Fasting is for healthy people: Because the purpose is to protect health, people whose health can be damaged by food or water deprivation should not fast. It is a known principle of Sharia that those who are sick are exempted from fasting.

But this exemption should be extended to other categories. There is extreme poverty in many societies with people who are malnourished and weak. They should be told not to fast. Those whose health can be adversely affected by water deprivation should also not fast. People suffering from mental illness such as depression, anxiety or schizophrenia should also be exempted, as well as people going through emotional crises such as death in the family or divorce. The current corona virus pandemic poses a threat to people with poor immunity. If you are weak or elderly, it is advisable for you to consult your physician if fasting is safe for you. In aya (2:184) people who do not fast are asked to provide food for a needy person for each missed fast.

### Work Ethic in Ramadan

In previous centuries work that required mental focus was not common. But in modern times most professional work is rigorous requiring intense concentration for long hours. This includes people who work with machines or instruments and those in computer-based professions. Loss of mental acuity because of hunger, thirst or sleep deprivation can cause mistakes and loss of productivity. Allowing such losses to occur without informing your employer is dishonest and contrary to the spirit of Ramadan. Contributing our best effort for the wages we receive is important for maintaining a person's spiritual integrity.

An honest way is to inform your employer that you intend to fast and come to an agreement about how any deficiency in your work is to be compensated for. It can be by someone else backing you at work, or you taking time off for the days you fast. If this is not feasible you can provide food for the poor instead of fasting.

### Becoming Mindful in Prayer

Prayer (salat, dua, zikr) is basic to faith. For prayer to help us we must be conscious of what we say.

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## Looking Forward to Ramadan 1442

...continued from page 7

Prayer performed as a ritual in which we are not aware of what we are saying is harmful, as pointed out in sura 107, ayas 4-5:  
*There is calamity for those who pray, who are unmindful in their prayer.* Praying by murmuring Arabic words you don't understand causes confusion because the mind looks for meaning, and not finding any wanders in different directions. These haphazard thoughts become your prayer. We all have seen people who have been praying in this fashion for years and their lives have become empty, weak or aimless.

Prophet Muhammad said that: *Prayer is your conversation with God.* Prophet Muhammad prayed in his own language, with words he deeply understood. Our prayer will also become meaningful if we think deeply about what we say. We want to think about how these words relate to our lives.

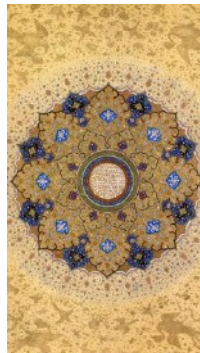
To make *salat* meaningful we can take these two steps:

- Write the meaning of each sentence in *salat* in your own language. Then write a short paragraph to explain its purpose.
- It is customary for people to recite a sura after Al-fateha which they memorized because it is short, without paying attention to its meaning. Make your salat a more inspiring experience by choosing verses that speak to your heart and you find inspiring.

Mindful prayer is the major resource for a person of faith because what we say to God knowingly and repeatedly can come to us, as it is promised in aya (14:34): *He gives you something out of everything you ask for.*

Practicing these habits during this month can set us on the path to a significantly improved life in the years to come.

~ Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed



## Muslim Reform Movement Organization

Quran Study by Zoom



Every Sunday 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

**All are welcome!**

To be invited to the meeting, please send an email to <mailto:muslimreform@hotmail.com>

Hosted by: **Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed**, author of "The Quran & the Life of Excellence"





## Making a Difference

...continued from page 2

In short, our lives have been deeply intertwined as members of the IFCLI. We look hopefully at the future, as things slowly begin to open up across the island. We consider the upcoming year for the IFCLI with great excitement!

However, we also face some challenges. Changes in leadership in our organization have left some needs unspoken for.

We need you! We look forward to our shared partnership in which you can contribute your talents, expertise, or simply a willingness to help, even in a small way. The work that you will do with us matters. By



community, the only one of its kind on Long Island.

The following people have stepped up so far:

- Allison Scilla-Bilawsky is our Steering Committee Chair
- Nancy Kelleher will continue as the Education Chair
- Gayle Kalvert is our Membership Chair
- Christine Mankes is the Communications Chair.



lending a helping hand, you are not only helping yourself, your spouse and your own family, but also, our greater community.

On Monday, March 15th, members of the IFCLI met to work out the finer details of our Leadership Transition. We have all reaped the benefits of this

Two positions that still need to be filled are the Adult Education Chair and the Finance Chair. In addition, there are also many other ways in which you could contribute!

Would you commit to helping the IFCLI continue to grow and help interfaith families in a loving, supportive and FUN environment?

Small tasks, small contributions, make a big difference. Please reach out to our Steering Committee Chair, Allison Bilawsky, at [allison@ifcli.org](mailto:allison@ifcli.org), to let us know you are willing to help!

**Upcoming Events for the IFCLI We look forward to seeing you!**

April 3 - Easter Egg Hunt @ Brookville Multifaith Campus - 2 p.m.  
April 4 - Virtual Easter Worship Celebration - 10 a.m.  
April 14 - Parent Workshop Series Session #2 at 8 p.m. (via zoom)  
April 17 - Adult Virtual Wine and Cheese Tasting  
April 18 - Children's classes - 11 a.m.  
April 18 - Identity and Transition Retreat 12 noon  
May 11 - Parent Workshop Series Session #3 at 8 p.m. (via zoom)  
May 16 - Children's classes - 11 a.m.  
May 23 - Identity and Transitions Commencement

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email [amy@interfaithli.org](mailto:amy@interfaithli.org)

Also, check us out on Facebook at the [Interfaith Community of Long Island](https://www.facebook.com/interfaithcommunityoflongisland).

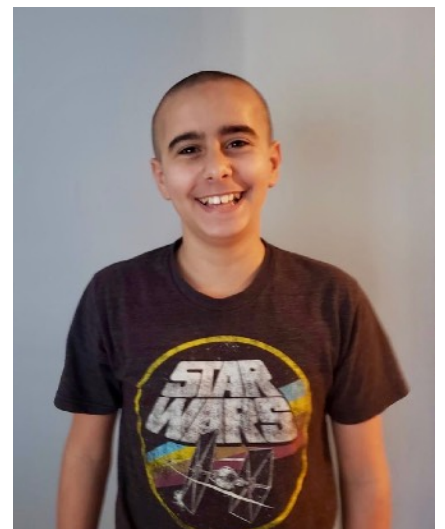
Instagram  
[@interfaithcommunityli](https://www.instagram.com/interfaithcommunityli)

[www.interfaithli.org](http://www.interfaithli.org)



**BRAG BOX**

Daniel Mankes would like to thank all of those who contributed to his St. Baldricks fundraiser. He and his team raised over \$5,000 for childhood cancer research!





# Brookville Multifaith Campus

*announces*

## Logo Design Contest

Design a logo around the theme:

*A doorway to mutual understanding*

Submissions may be sent in **jpeg** format,  
by **May 15, 2021** to [brookvillemfc@gmail.com](mailto:brookvillemfc@gmail.com)

Enter to win one of three prizes:

- First place winner receives a cash prize of \$100 and the honor of their design being used as the branding logo for Brookville Multifaith Campus
- Second place winner receives \$75 cash prize
- Third place winner receives \$50 cash prize

**Winners will be announced on Memorial Day - May 31, 2021**

All logos submitted will become the  
property of the Brookville Multifaith Campus.





# CAMP WARWICK NOW HIRING



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MAINTENANCE.

Take part in an unforgettable summer with Camp Warwick. Become a member of our awesome staff and have the time of your life while teaching and learning with all of our campers. Go to the link below to start your application today!!

[https://campwarwick.org/  
counselors/](https://campwarwick.org/counselors/)

## The Next Chapter



Branch Worsham

### Five and Eight

There wasn't anything special about those two numbers when I flew on my first airplane ride to New York City and took a bus to West Point in June of 1954.

As an eighteen year old I wasn't familiar with all of the "magic numbers" of the Bible - seven, the perfect number because God created the universe in seven days (and it was good); ten, the complete number, because that is how many Commandments it took; 40, which preachers tell us that in the Bible that is a long time---40 years wandering before entering the Promised Land, 40 days and 40 nights Jesus was in the wilderness; or the number three, the number of days after the crucifixion on which Christ rose from the dead, which makes a three a pretty strong number.

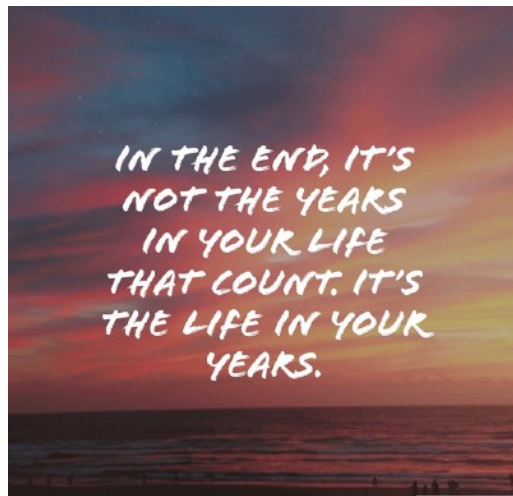
### Five and Eight

They aren't known as lucky numbers. Like seven, for 'lucky 7' is the world's favorite number: there are seven days of the week, seven colors of the rainbow, seven notes on a musical scale, seven seas and seven continents. Two sixes are bad luck, but three sixes (666) are even worse - they represent the devil himself. Shake up the dice for a one and a three and get a 13' which everyone knows is the unluckiest of all unlucky numbers.

### Five and Eight

Before no time at all we New Cadets learned that if we were so fortunate as to graduate in four years it would be 1958 and we would from those

first June days until the graduation and beyond, be known as the Class of '58. Along the way someone tagged on "58 Is Great" which helped raise our spirits sometimes. Moving beyond graduation 58 years later brings us to the year 2016 and it fizzled as a day of celebration. Two years later, in 2018, we had our sixtieth graduation celebration. Except the trip was skipped because the nation was tightening up the security on military installations and walking around the place was tiring.



### Fifty-Eight (Got it right now!)

We were not all born in 1936 so the best times to celebrate our graduation was on years that occurred in five year increments. Going up to West Point every five years to meet with the Class of '58 was usually enjoyable because we could still walk around. About the time most of us reached 60, as an age, it was to some folks the introduction to the "Golden Age" when one becomes a full fledged member of the Senior

Citizens group. Most of the guys were fully retired from two careers by then.

Looking back over my life, I accept that becoming sixteen was the first milestone because that's when I got my driver's license. Eighteen was important because I graduated from high school but more significant was that Uncle Sam accepted me into his Army as a Cadet. Twenty-two was the big event -- 1958 -- when "58 Is Great" became real. Marriage came when I was just shy of age twenty-four and THAT was real special - we never thought about being married for sixty years and now it is sixty-one!

Continued on page 14

## Five and Eight ...continued from page 13

Turning 30 and 40 didn't bother me much and even turning 50 wasn't bad except being reminded it was half a century. By turning 60 I could enter into a new and slightly easier age group for footraces. Somewhere in my early 70s I decided and declared that I wanted to work until age 85 and then retire.

But alas, dear friends, it was tough to become 77 because I was hit with Atrial Fibrillation (AFIB). I tried it and didn't like it so I reduced my running to avoid heart issues.

sixteen was the first milestone because that's when I got my driver's license. Eighteen was important because I graduated from high school but more significant was that Uncle Sam accepted me into his Army as a Cadet. Twenty-two was the big event -- 1958 -- when "58 Is Great" became real. Marriage came when I was just shy of age twenty-four and THAT was real special - we never thought about being married for sixty years and now it is sixty-one! Turning 30 and 40 didn't bother me much and even turning 50 wasn't bad except being reminded it was half a century. By turning 60 I could enter into a new and slightly easier age group for footraces. Somewhere in my early 70s I decided and declared that I wanted to work until age 85 and then retire.

But alas, dear friends, it was tough to become 77 because I was hit with Atrial Fibrillation (AFIB). I

tried it and didn't like it so I reduced my running to avoid heart issues.

Getting to age 80 was certainly impressive but my increasing years did not seem to have produced any increased intelligence. Reaching 2020 last year started out great; celebrating the New Year and our sixtieth year of marriage on a cruise ship followed by a vacation. Then everything seemed to be going against my retirement plans. I wasn't feeling well enough to finish out the term at the office and Covid-19 was impeding the plans to hire a replacement (nobody wanted to take on the job.) You all know what has happened for the past year - no plans could be made. Stay Safe and Stay Well worked, but it meant stay at home and don't mingle.

February 5th 2021 arrived, and I became 85 and was still doing the work from a remote site, which is here at our retirement home in New Jersey. A replacement worker has finally been found and this year, still at 85, I will *finally* be able to fill the forms at the doctors' offices as RETIRED.

About the only significant thoughts about my approach to old age are: "My new goal is to live until 90 and then review the options. Life is just wonderful, even when old age come, as long as you can sleep peacefully and your soul can too."

Live each phase to its fullest!

~ Branch Worsham

Support Brookville Reformed Church  
by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

  
You shop. Amazon gives.

### Are you looking for a shot in the arm?

If you know anyone that needs a **vaccine**, this is a link to a volunteer organization that finds vaccine appointments for people.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSczOilgEn1U-4RavkHdrSadTgd6\\_VSMDI-Ueqhs4jwpxyH6NQ/closedform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSczOilgEn1U-4RavkHdrSadTgd6_VSMDI-Ueqhs4jwpxyH6NQ/closedform)

You will receive a call, text or email within a few days from people who can connect you with an appointment.