



Church Overview

Historic roots

RBC was founded in 1896 as a member church of the Plymouth Brethren association in New Jersey. In 1960's the Church purchased a piece of land strategically located across the street from a local college and built a chapel for its weekly meetings. The Church still meets at this location.

Geographic location

The Church is located at the Southern end of Bergen County, NJ and is an easy train or bus ride into New York City. Many people in the area and some who attend the chapel work in Manhattan on a full or hybrid basis. A daily commute of up to 60 minutes is not uncommon for people in the chapel.

About two-thirds of the regular attenders live within a ten mile radius of the Church. Bergen County is made up of small towns that are adjacent to each other, but with separate municipal and school systems. It has a community college with two campuses and is home to 3 other universities (Fairleigh Dickenson, Felician, and Ramapo State).

What we love about this area

Small town feel in the midst of major urban center.

Easy access to great shopping, entertainment, and all that NYC has to offer.

Easy access to wonderful hiking and outdoors activities in the Poconos and Adirondacks.

And the shore! The Jersey Shore is hard to beat!

Make-up of the church

The Church is a diverse group ethnically, financially, politically, and in age. We average about 90-100 people on a Sunday morning. Our Children's Sunday School program has 15-20 regular attenders, from about 15 families.

We have 5 small groups that meet during the week. Approximately 50% percent of the church's regular attenders are also a part of small groups. The groups each choose their topic and content separately.

While the church was founded in the Plymouth Brethren tradition it has developed its own non-denominational identity. The worship style is contemporary, and there are a number of attendees who are interested in charismatic and/or contemplative experiences.

The church has a missions committee and supports several missionaries with whom the chapel has a long-standing commitment and relationship.

There is an interest in helping the poor and other marginalized communities. Several families have fostered and adopted children. One key leader is a regular volunteer at Star of Hope Ministries in Paterson, two women work full-time for New City Kids, another woman



is a hospital chaplain doing hospice care. Our deacons support monthly outreach to a nursing home.

Vision

We are making a leadership transition with the partial retirement of the long time lead pastor.

The Church has recently completed a “reVisioning” process in order to identify the goals and objectives it hopes to achieve in the next five years.

We have added two new elders to the elder board and created a new “leadership team” to broaden the number of leaders to help implement the reVision goals. We have two part-time employees – an administrator and a youth ministries director.

The reVision Goals and Objectives

What follows is the outcome of a six month “reVisioning” process that the Church went through during the spring and summer of 2022. The “reVision” gives the Church a clear vision for the future and helps determine where we need to invest our time, energy, and resources.

The reVision Goals

- Help People Grow Spiritually
- The Church lives out the “one anothers” of the Bible
- The Church walks in obedience & joy.

RBC Leadership Model

