

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MARLBORO OLD BRICK REFORMED CHURCH INCLUDED IN WEEKEND AT OLD MONMOUTH TOUR

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY (May 2, 2019) – Mayor Jon Hornik is proud to announce the inclusion of the Old Brick Reformed Church as part of *Weekend in Old Monmouth*, a self-guided tour, being held on Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5. This annual event features 50 Monmouth County historic sites where doors are open to visitors free of admission. Old Brick Reformed Church is the first site in Marlboro Township to achieve this recognition.

Mayor Hornik stated, “We have so many beautiful old properties in Marlboro Township, but Old Brick Church is an extraordinary example of these local treasures.” He credits the Marlboro Township Historic Commission for their efforts in promoting the site on the county level. Mayor Hornik added, “The Historic Commission works throughout the year to evaluate, document and preserve our historic sites like Old Brick, and I am glad they took the initiative to make our town and county residents aware of its significance.”

Douglas Tilton, Chairman for the Marlboro Historic Commission was instrumental in getting the Old Brick Reformed Church added to the annual event. “Our community is so rich in history, and the founding of the Old Brick Church had a lot to do with it,” he said. Old Brick was established by Dutch settlers in 1699, and its present site on Route 520 was acquired in 1709. A church building was built there in 1732, and the present brick church replaced it in 1826. Mr. Tilton added, “I hope many people come to see the Church, the surrounding Cemetery full of familiar names, and listen to a demonstration by the Church’s organist.”

The nine-member volunteer Marlboro Historic Commission is dedicated to keeping Marlboro Township history alive in the 21st Century. They advise the Mayor, Town Council, Planning Board and Zoning Board with respect to the preservation of historic sites and traditions. Their objective is to preserve and publicize Marlboro’s historic elements which include more than a dozen homes dating from the 1700s, many dozens more that were built in the 1800s, and a Historic District that encompasses the Marlboro Village. The Marlboro historic Commission can be contacted at history1848@marlboro-nj.gov.

Old Brick Church is part of the Reformed Church of America, the denomination with the longest continuous ministry in the United States. It has roots in the early Dutch community which contributed so much to American culture. The Church is located at 490 Route 520, Marlboro, NJ 07746. See it up close during the *Weekend in Old Monmouth* event, during which Old Brick Reformed Church is open to visitors May 4th 10am-5pm and 5th 12pm-5pm. For more information about the Monmouth County Historical Commission, as well as a virtual tour of the 50 sites, please visit <https://www.visitmonmouth.com/page.aspx?Id=3464>.

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