

Friend/Visitor/Guest

First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy  
P.O. Box 787, 150 N. Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879

## THE OPEN DOOR

First Presbyterian Church  
150 North Broadway, PO Box 787  
South Amboy, NJ 08879

Office e-mail: [firstsouthamboy@optimum.net](mailto:firstsouthamboy@optimum.net)

Web Site: [www.fpcsachurch.org](http://www.fpcsachurch.org)

Facebook page: [fpcsamboy](https://www.facebook.com/fpcsamboy)

Phone : 732-721-4516

Fax: 732-721-9208

Sunday Worship                      10:30 am

Sunday School Oct—June 9:00am

Give Thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good.  
*Psalm 107:1*



# November

# November 2020



*I have not stopped  
giving thanks for you,  
remembering you in my  
prayers.  
Ephesians 1:16*

| Sun  | Mon           | Tue                               | Wed   | Thu  | Fri                       | Sat |
|--|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 Day light saving time ends<br>9am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship/Communion | 2 6pm Scouts  | 3 Election Day                    | 4 6pm Girls Scouts  | 5                     | 6 3pm Pathway to Success  | 7   |
| 8 9am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship<br>11:30 am Deacon                      | 9 6pm Scouts  | 10                                | 11 Veteran's Day<br>6pm Girls Scouts<br>7:30pm Scouts Leaders | 12   | 13 3pm Pathway to Success | 14  |
| 15 9am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship  | 16 6pm Scouts | 17                                | 18 2:30 pm Session<br>6pm Girls Scouts                        | 19 9:30am Bagging<br>   | 20 3pm Pathway to Success | 21  |
| 22 Christ The King<br>9am Sunday School<br>10:30am Worship                     | 23 6pm Scouts | 24                                | 25 6pm Girls Scouts   | 26 Thanksgiving Day<br> | 27 3pm Pathway to Success | 28  |
| 29 1st Sunday of Advent<br>10:30am Worship                                     | 30 6pm Scouts | 31 7pm Girl Scout Leaders Meeting |   |  |                           |     |

## ~Schedules~

PLEASE GET A SUBSTITUTE FOR YOURSELF IF YOU CANNOT BE THERE ON YOUR ASSIGNED DATE. RECORD CHANGES IN SCHEDULE ON MASTER COPY LOCATED IN OFFICE, ROOM 2.

### READER SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Gerry R  
 8 Elaine L  
 15 Anthony V Sr.  
 22 Ruth B  
 29 Jenn B

Dec.. 6 Anthony V. Jr.  
 13 Joan D.  
 20 Angelina V.  
 27 Ruth B.



### GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Arvid H, Mary P.  
 8 Norma M, Betty P.  
 15 Beth M, Lori R.  
 22 Sherry K, Molly S.  
 29 Madhu S, Joyce S.

Dec.. 6 Shirley W, Cara W.  
 13 Joan D, \_\_\_\_\_  
 20 Kenny H, Megan J  
 27 Arvid H, Mary P.



### NURSERY SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Elaine L , Peggy H  
 8 Martha M , Judy S  
 15 Betty P , Anna L  
 22 Mike W, Shirley W  
 29 Christine V, \_\_\_\_\_

Dec.. 6 Sherry K, David K.  
 13 Elaine L, Peggy H.  
 20 No Nursery  
 27 No Nursery

### COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Jill B, Sherry K  
 Dec.. 6 Megan J, \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Jill B, Sherry K  
 Dec.. 6 Megan J, \_\_\_\_\_

### COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Nov. 1 Lori R, Mary N.  
 Dec.. 6 Lisa B, Patti Mc.



### Prayers for Our Homebound

#### Members & Friends

**James and Barbara Ballo,**  
 28 First Street, Sayreville, NJ 08872

**Ervant Mansfield,**  
 Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave,  
 Apt 316, Edison, NJ 08837

**Beverly Mezger,**  
 250 S. Broadway, Apt 511, So. Amboy, NJ 08879

**Carolyn Nappe,**  
 250 S. Broadway, Apt 215, So. Amboy, NJ 08879

**Debbie Sargeant Sr.**  
 3058 Bordentown Ave, Parlin, NJ 08859

*Please remember our homebound with a card and prayer.*

PULPIT SUPPLY - John Mottley  
 CLERK OF SESSION - Christine Vella  
 MODERATOR OF DEACONS - Shirley Weaver  
 TREASURER - Elaine Lopez  
 SECRETARY - Shirley Weaver  
 ORGANIST - Kevin Shoemaker  
 SEXTONS - Erin Gualdarrama & Shirley Weaver  
 MISSION CO-CHAIRS - Ruth Beselinoff & Stephanie McAleer  
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL - Shirley Weaver

**As of Feb. 2020**

### OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| Elaine Lopez  | Mary Porcello |
| Jill Berwick  | Joan Downes   |
| Arvid Holt    | Joyce Solanki |
| Molly Solanki |               |

### YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

*(Responsible for Governing our Church Affairs)*

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Elaine Lopez    | Mary Porcello   |
| Dorothy Rhodes  | George Schaefer |
| Christine Vella |                 |

### YOUR DEACONS

*(Responsible for Assisting our Church and Community in Times of Need)*

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jill Berwick      | Megan Jarvis      |
| Sherry Kuo        | Stephanie McAleer |
| Elizabeth Pinella | Shirley Weaver    |

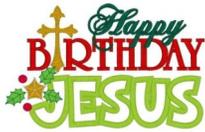
## Happy Birthday

Jesus

Dec. 13, 2020

The Deacons and Missions Committees are hosting our Happy Birthday Jesus event after service on Dec. 13. Please **REGISTER** your child by Nov. 29. if you want them to participate. We need to make sure Santa knows who's coming. Registration forms are in the mailroom on the bench. More information to follow.

~ Deacons & Missions



## ANGEL TREE

In the spirit of sharing the blessing the Lord has bestowed upon us, we are sponsoring an Angel Tree to share His blessings with those less fortunate. Anyone wishing to help a child for Christmas can take an angel card off the tree and buy an age appropriate gift for that age child and return the gift under the tree unwrapped. Please return the angel card with the gift. Gifts will be picked up weekly. When all the angels are adopted, the tree will have all crosses on it as a reminder of The Lords "Christmas Present" to us, "His Son". Please have all gifts back by Dec. 15th. So we may get them out. ~ Shirley Weaver



South Amboy  
100 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879  
(732) 721-0187  
www.amboymbank.com

CELEBRATING



### FINANCIAL REPORT

Sept. 2020

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Offerings            | \$ 8,232         |
| Covenant Income      |                  |
| God's Pocket         | \$ 100           |
| Designated income    | \$ 501           |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>\$ 8,833</b>  |
| <b>Disbursements</b> | <b>\$ -7,537</b> |

**2 CORINTHIANS 9: "Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."**

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer

### Update/Volunteer Forms

Update/Volunteer Forms are out in your mailboxes. There are extra forms in the mailroom. Please complete the forms and return them to the office **by Nov. 30, 2020**. Also, if you already have planned vacations or times that you know that you are not available in 2021, Please give a list of those days to the office so we don't schedule you on those days. ~Shirley



*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning."*

~ James 1:17

"Dear Father, your blessings are perfect. All that you give is good. From creation to the end, your gifts bring life to this earth.

"Teach me to accept what you've given. I may not always understand circumstances, but show me how they are blessings and give me gratitude for all of your gifts."

"Rain your blessings on my friends and family today. Give them hope whatever they face. May they recognize that the good and perfect gifts are from you."

"Thank you that your blessings never end. You give them to us at unexpected times."

"In Jesus name, Amen."

*From Pocket Prayers, 40 Simple Prayers that Bring Peace and Rest, by Max Lucado with Andrea Lucado. Thomas Nelson Publisher. 2014.*

Submitted by Molly Solanki



Our Church Outdoor BBQ on Oct. 17



Once again, Our Lord gave us a beautiful day of fellowship. This clear windy day we celebrated with a BBQ in our parking lot. Catered by “Dave’s Hot Dogs”. He came with his fames Cart and Grill. This is how the Lord designed this date, we had just heard from Presbytery our selection for Stated Pulpit Supply was agreed to. So the gift of the day was having a former Pastor and Current Pastor there to celebrate the day with us. Our Congregants, Police, Firemen, Friends of South Amboy and Sebastian from Wakefern. As it happened that day was Sebastian’s birthday! In total we had about 55 people join us throughout the afternoon. Certainly, none of this could I have planned when I threw the date out for this event. Only Our Lord knows what date to set aside. I was thinking of getting one more outdoor party in, before the cold weather sets in. As you look at the pictures of the day the complete story is told, just by the smiles. To His Glory Mary Porcello



(right) Friends of South Amboy made a donation to the Rotary to support our efforts to collect food for the food pantries of First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy and Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Food was collected on Sept. 20, 2020 at their Classic Car Show.



(below) Sayreville-South Amboy Girl Scouts Make A Difference Day Event. Food collection for the food pantries of First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy and OLV on Oct. 24, 2020.



## The Mission Committee

Please remember the Mission Committee in your giving. There are Mission Designated Envelopes or you could just drop a check in the offering plates or mail with "Missions" noted in the memo.

Thank you for your donations.

Ruth Beselinoff and Stephanie McAleer,  
Missions Committee Co-Chairs



### A 'Golden Rule' prayer

We come together today to pray for our country and also for ourselves. We are thankful for the blessings of living in the United States, but increasingly fearful for our future because of the enmity and bitterness we see between our fellow citizens. Help us to be more mindful of your teachings and to act in love to help heal the deep divisions in our country. We pray that you will keep us mindful of your great command to "treat others as we want to be treated" and that you will help us find ways to apply that principle in our daily lives. We believe that your way of love and kindness can transform our country and ask your assistance as we seek to show that love to others — especially those who hold views very different than our own. Amen. From: [goldenrule2020.org](http://goldenrule2020.org)

Submitted by Molly Solanki



### INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

You did it again!!!! Thanks to you and especially our Anna. Anna has been saving used ink cartridges from work and it really helped this month. Shirley and I put together an order totaling \$125.97 of office supplies. We placed the order on the computer and like magic Staples had \$80.00 in rewards waiting for us. We never pay shipping. Balance charge to us \$45.97. Wow!!! Keep up the good work!

Elaine Lopez

NEWARK • LIVINGSTON  
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Owner/Estimator  
CELL (732) 551-8475



### TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Christmas Poinsettias will be  
**\$7.50 each. Orders will be taken  
until December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

You can also order flowers "In Honor  
of" or "In Memory of" a loved one for  
Sunday worship. Sunday worship  
flowers are \$25.00 for both urns.  
Please make all checks out to **CASH.**

Thank you.

Jean Greene 732-727-8690



### Worship Services on Facebook Live

We have begun to share our services on our Facebook page. Starting Sept. 13, each service will go "live" Sunday mornings. Now our home bound members will be able to watch from home. Once the recording is finished it will remain available on the church's Facebook page to watch anytime, so no one will miss it. We hope this will be a blessing for our home bound members, people who miss a Sunday, and anyone who wants a second listen to the hymns and sermon.

### Attention All Committees



All reports for the Annual Congregational Meeting in January 2021, **must be given to the office by January 5, 2021.** Please have all reports typed, clearly written, or clearly printed on 8 1/2" x 11" unlined paper, on one page if possible. ~ Shirley Weaver



VENETIAN  
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External Case Manager

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## November Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

*Nov. 3 Edith Hanmore*

*Nov. 6 David Coates*

*Nov. 8 Christian Dwojeski*

*Nov. 10 Joseph Beselinoff*

*Nov. 11 Dominick Vigilante*

*Nov. 19 Peggy Holt*

*Nov. 21 Janet Bills*

*Nov. 23 Dorothy Rhodes*

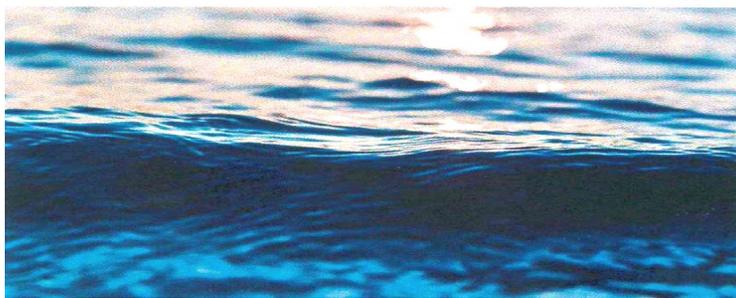
*Nov. 24 Anthony Vella Sr.*

*Nov. 25 Joyce Solanki*

The Mansfield Family always remembers Richard Mansfield's birthday, Oct. 20, with a memorial offering. This year would have been 97 years.



**VERITAS**  
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I always used to think of November as a dreary month; cold weather is setting in, the days are short and night comes very early, the trees have given up their leaves, the flowers died with the frost and the gardens are empty of their produce.

But over the past several years of ministry, I have come to appreciate and even love November because it contains two days that I find very special; two days when I feel especially close to God.

The first is November 1st (or the Sunday closest to that date), All Saints' Day. On this Sunday we remember and hold close in our hearts all those dear folks who are gone from our sight, who are worshiping God on another shore and in a greater light. We especially remember those who have "Gone home to be with the Lord" this past year, and we thank God for their lives, even as our hearts still ache from their loss. It's also a day to give thanks to those saints who are still amongst you, who play a role in keeping your church a place where you can come together to worship and serve our Lord Jesus Christ (and I can just picture you saints!).

The other day that is so special in November is, of course, Thanksgiving. It is always our custom to give thanks to God for our many blessings on this day as we gather with family and friends to eat, drink and be merry. But this year of the Coronavirus, Thanksgiving is different. Many of us are not gathering for a feast; we may be with one or two others, or maybe alone. Out of town family will not be with us this year, and we cannot travel to them. Our elderly family members/friends in care facilities are cut off from us and the many visitors who usually stream in to visit on holidays. But we still have much to be thankful for. Think about it. We have food. We have friends. We have entertainment at the push of a button. We have many ways to stay in touch that don't involve close contact. You still have church - the service looks different, but you can worship with a fine preacher in the church that feels like home. And we have God's promise, "I am with you always...I will never leave you or forsake you."

David and I will be alone this year in our new home in North Carolina. We'll plan a zoom call with our kids and see our (by then) 7 month old grandson on a screen. We'll have our feast with fewer trimmings and afterwards watch a movie on TV. And I know that I'll spend some time thinking of my many blessings and thanking God for them, and when I give thanks to a loving God, I'll think of you, in South Amboy, and a lovely church with lovely people who love the Lord and one another.

God bless you all. Love, [  
former Interim Pastor] Suzanne

# the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
.150 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879



## The Slow Return to Normalcy

2020 has been an unprecedented year for the church. For the first time in the history of the Church we purposely closed our doors back in March in order to "stay home & save lives". With various experts speculating about how devastating this new virus could be, the church wisely decided to close our doors. With some experts saying people could be "dying in the streets", we did not want to take any chances, especially with so little known about the virus.

Finally in late May, we reopened our doors under the strictest of guidelines. We held four separate services on Sunday morning, maximum of 10 people in attendance including myself and Kevin the organist, everyone wearing masks, everyone social distancing, and wiping down the pews between services. It was intense, but finally the church was worshipping together again. The Lord blessed that time with a special presence of His Spirit, and he protected us by none of us getting sick.

Now we are back to one service on Sunday's at the usual time. Masks & social distancing measures are still required, but things are slowly coming back to normal. We locked down to save lives, but now the church is open for business.

There are still things we miss about "how we used to do things". However, we are committed to getting there one step at a time - slowly, responsibly, and as lead by the Holy Spirit. Communion looks different now than it used to, but we are grateful to be having it again. We miss having coffee hour after service, but we have been enjoying outdoor BBQ's and similar fellowship events in the meantime. The process is not as fast as any of us like, but we are getting there.

In the meantime, let us continue to "be the church". Let us continue to encourage one another and pray for one another. Let us continue to meet with each other as individuals and reach out to those we haven't seen in awhile. 2020 was a dark year for our nation, but the light of Christ still shines brightly in His church and brighter days yet lay ahead for our fellowship.

Pastor John Mottley

*And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. John 6:11*

"Oh, Father, you multiply the loaves and fishes. You perform miracles that you alone are capable of. You speak all there is into being."

"Help me experience your mighty power today. Show me that you are capable of more than I could ever ask or imagine. And when I see your power at work, help me be grateful for it."

"I pray for everyone who feels there is not much to give thanks for right now. They have lost a child. They are sick. They have lost jobs. Fill their hearts with inexplicable gratitude, for you are still good."

"I give you thanks for your almighty power and kindness. You didn't have to feed five thousand men on that hill two thousand years ago, but thank you for showing your loved even through lunch."

"In Jesus' name I pray, amen."

*From Pocket Prayers, 40 Simple Prayers that Bring Peace and Rest, by Max Lucado with Andrea Lucado. Thomas Nelson Publisher. 2014.*

Submitted by Molly Solanki