

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
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Office e-mail: firstsouthamboy@optimum.net

Web Site: 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



February

FEBRUARY 2021

*But God demonstrates his own
love for us in this: While we
were still sinners,*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6pm Scouts	2 Groundhog's Day	3 6pm Girl Scouts	4	5	6
7 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion	8 6pm Scouts	9	10 6pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	11	12 Chinese's New Year	13
14 Valentine's Day 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/ Installation of Officers 11:30am To-Go Luncheon	15 President's Day 6pm Scouts	16 9:30am Food Delivery	17 Ash Wednesday 2:30pm Session 6pm Girl Scouts	18	19	20
21 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacon	22 6pm Scouts	23	24 6pm Girl Scouts	25	26	27
28 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	29 6pm Scouts	30	31 6pm Girl Scouts			

~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

Canceled during Covid 19

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Canceled during Covid 19

GREETERS & USHERS



Feb.	7	Joyce S.
	14	Mary P.
	21	Betty P.
	28	Sherry K.
Mar.	7	Joan D.
	14	Arvid H.
	21	Megan J.
	28	Kenny H

COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

Feb.	7	Christine V.
Mar.	7	Madhu S.

COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

Canceled during Covid 19

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Canceled during Covid 19

If and when we are able to go back to normal services we will post the lists of volunteers and let you all know. Thank you for your help.



ATTENTION:

Greeter & Usher and Communion Set-up Schedules and for 2021 were put into the mailboxes and are on the Bulletin Boards.

The other lists will be made when we can resume those activity Thank you all for you help.



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. 2021

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elaine Lopez	Mary Porcello
Jill Berwick	Joan Downes
Lori Ryan	Judy Scharff
Joyce Solanki	

YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

(Responsible for Governing our Church Affairs)

Ruth Beselinoff	Elaine Lopez
Mary Porcello	George Schaefer
Madhu Solanki	Christine Vella

YOUR DEACONS

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

Jill Berwick	Megan Jarvis
Sherry Kuo	Larry Wallace
Elizabeth Pinella	Shirley Weaver

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

This month Fritz and Maria Jarvis saved 15 used ink cartridges for us. That equals \$30.00 of rewards at Staples. Of course we put that to immediate use. We ordered envelopes, paper clips, binder clips and paper towels. Cost \$83.43 minus rewards, we paid \$43.43. Keep up the good work. Praise God for always providing.

Elaine Lopez

FINANCIAL REPORT

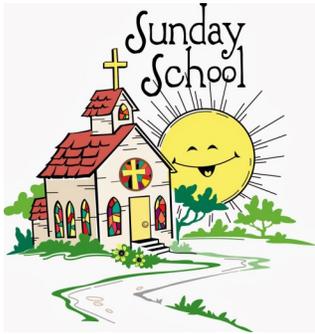
December 2020

Offerings	\$ 10,015
Covenant Income	1,116
God's Pocket	1,360
Designated Income	+549
Total Income	\$ 13,040
Disbursements	\$ -13,850

ACTS 20:

“Give, and it will be given to you.”

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer



2021 ~ A Happy New Year!

Sunday School returned in January to continue our lessons on Choosing to be Generous and Caring about Others. It is cold outside but we are warm and happy to be together learning about God's Love for us.

Miss Judy



VERITAS
RECOVERY CENTER

Spreading the Joy of Jesus' Love



The Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy would like to Spread the Joy of Jesus' Love and welcome our members to a

Free Luncheon To-Go

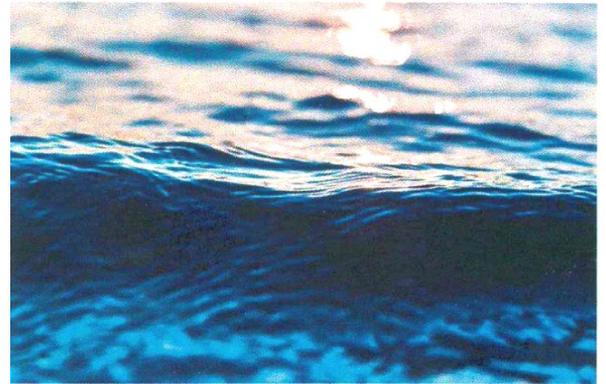
(there will be no charge for this lunch, but a donation to the Board of Deacons is always welcome.)

Sunday, February, 14th 2021

To-Go Lunches can be picked up downstairs after service.

This Valentine's Day let us remember that God's Love is the greatest gift we received.

1 John 4:7-11 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.



Substance Use Disorder and
Inpatient Withdrawal
Management

VERITAS

540 Bordentown Ave.
South Amboy, New Jersey 08879

Phone: 732-721-1000 - Fax: 732-952-3355

www.veritasrecoverycenter.com

February Birthdays



Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

Feb. 10 Rev. Jeffrey Carney

Feb. 12 Debbie Sargeant Jr.

Feb. 14 Arvid Holt

Feb. 17 Nimish "Norman" Solanki

Feb. 24 Amanda Vella

*Want to see your special date listed?
Give the office your info.*

Sunday Worship Flowers

Flowers for Sunday Worship are \$25.00 for two urns. I have many openings. You can order flowers to honor someone or in memory of a loved one. Order forms are in the pews and mail room.

Please make checks payable to "Cash". To place an order or if you have any questions please contact me. - Jean Greene

Upcoming Events this Month

Feb. 14

Ordination & Installation of Officers during Worship



Feb. 14

Valentine's Day Luncheon To-Go after Service

LENT

WALKING WITH CHRIST

A Lenten Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, by your passion, death and resurrection you have set us free from sin and death. May your grace renew our hearts this Lent and help us turn from sin our own lives. May we learn to appreciate more deeply the sacrifice you made for us. Accept our prayer, fasting and acts of charity as we seek to draw closer to you during this holy season. Strengthen the faith of your people so that we may be a sign of your love to all the world. Amen.

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Submitted by Molly Solanki

Love

- Is patient
- Is kind
- It does not envy
- It does not boast
- It is not proud
- It is not rude
- It is not self seeking
- It is not easily angered
- It keeps no record of wrongs

Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love Never Fails

Another Christmas has come, once again we were able to meet the needs as they came in. Each year we have seen an increase of needs, never anything like this year. In years past when we reached over six hundred gifts, we thought we had hit a high point.

We just never expected to have to meet the largest increase in our many years of having our Angel Tree. Every year we have several people doing an Angel tree for us as well as our own church. While we were surprised by the amount certainly our Lord was not. As gifts kept coming to my home daily, so did more request. As the Lord would have it, on Wednesday the 23rd, of December Mark Herdman called to tell me the Firemen had trucks/cars fill with Christmas gifts.

It seems the “Raine Foundation” came along with more gifts in case there was more needs to meet. Humbly I say thank you to one and all who helped in anyway at all.

In Christ
Mary Porcello



Expressions of God's Love

Because God loves you,
Rain comes in the Spring,
Flowers bloom in vibrant hues,
Birds have a song to sing.
Because God loves you,
Winter snow is white,
Trees are forever green
Stars shine every night!
The universe was created
By God's mighty hand.
Every prayer is answered
By His will and plan.
The reason why the sun shines,
Why the sky above is blue,
Why faith makes all things possible...
Is because of God's love for you!

Millie Torzilli
Submitted by Jean Greene

Groundhog Day—February 2

Groundhog Day in the U.S. is inspired by Candlemas Day, when German clergy would bless and distribute candles people would use for the remainder of winter. Candlemas itself is a Christian adaptation of Imbolc, a pagan celebration that marked the day that falls halfway between winter solstice and spring equinox. According to tradition, “If Candlemas Day is clear and bright, winter will have another bite. If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain, winter is gone and will not come again.” German farmers, who would have been familiar with the animals on their land, believed a hedgehog that cast a shadow on that day meant winter’s continuation. When German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania, they adopted the legendary groundhog as their animal prognosticator. February 2 is also approximately 40 days after Christmas, at which time Mary would have been able to dedicate baby Jesus at the temple and be purified after giving birth (Purification of the Blessed Mary). Some also consider this date as a sort of a halfway between Christmas and Easter---and a good reason to keep those decorations out until then!

<https://time.com/5124801/fun-groundhog-day-facts>

<https://www.newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/groundhog-day-candlemas/>

<https://www.diocesealex.org/latest-news/catholic-all-year-groundhog-day/>

Submitted by Molly Solanki

**HAPPY
GROUNDHOG DAY**



President's Day

Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition.

--Abraham Lincoln

Let your heart feel for the afflictions and distress of everyone, and let your hand give in proportion to your purse.

--George Washington

From www.brainyquote.com

Submitted by Molly Solanki



Valentine's Day

Did Adam and Eve ever have a date?
No, they had an apple!

What did the flame say to his buddies after he fell in love?
"I found the perfect match!"

Did you hear about the bed bugs that fell in love?
They're getting married in the spring!

Submitted by Molly Solanki

We still have a lot of shirts left. Please consider buying one to support our Food Pantry

T-shirts \$15 each

Sizes Available:
S, M, L, XL, 2XL

Phone: 732-721-4516



PAVERS

MY BELOVED WIFE ♥ ALICE ♥ SCHWANKERT	OUR LOVING MOM ALICE SCHWANKERT
† THANK YOU LORD CHRISTIAN, CARA, SHIRLEY & MIKE †	DIEKER MARY ♾ FRED 11-07-1964

We are selling engraved pavers for our "Memorial Paver Garden" out front. Want one? Forms are available on our website and in the mailroom at the church. ~ SW

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Debra Kurzawa
External Case Manager

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Efax 732.782.0331 • dkurzawa@venetiancc.com

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the OPEN DOOR

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



The White House, God's House, and Your house

Psalm 121:1-2 "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." ESV

There has been so much focus in recent weeks over what is happening in the White House and notably who is occupying it. It's understandable as some of the decisions in that house will affect my house and our way of life, and we ought to participate in our elections as good citizens. However, we ought not to trust anyone entering that house to radically change our lives.

Neither candidate was going to "ride in on a white horse" and solve all my problems. Many politicians come into power promising to "fix" your life and improve your life situation, yet seldom do they deliver with the same conviction they promised it with. Everyday life looks largely the same between administrations. In fact, if I were to turn off all media outlets during campaign season my "everyday life" would largely go unchanged. Perhaps it would be even better and filled with less anxiety! Surely you see my point though, very little recognizable change comes through the government other than perhaps my taxes going up again.

What happens in my house is far less influenced by the White House and far more influenced by "God's House". There's a reason David said "I was glad when they said to me 'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'" There is something powerful that takes place when the people of God assemble. We sing praises to our God together in every season, we dig into God's word together, we encourage one another as we fellowship, and we serve God together. No wonder why David said he was "glad"!

"God's House" is where "real" lasting change happens, this is where a power that can change the culture exists in ways I can see.

Of course as protestants we understand there is a difference between the Old Testament Tabernacle that David referred to and a modern church. For years Presbyterians would only refer to a church building as a "meeting house", because they understood the church is the assembly of believers and not a building. It's not about the location - it's about experiencing God, deepening our relationship with Him, and enjoying the fellowship of believers together. These truths can be experienced even without entering our building, as many in our church family have understandably chosen to do for this unique season.

Let's ask the question the psalmist did. Where *does* my help come from? David would reply as he did in Psalm 20 "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God". Let us not look to the White House for our salvation, but to a hill named Calvary where my king died in my place.

Let us enjoy this play on words one last time with a familiar but powerful verse for this season. "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15 ESV). May that be our commitment this season.

God bless,

John Mottley