

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

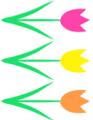
Sunday School Oct—June 9:00am



## March



# 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6pm Scouts	2	3 6pm Girl Scouts	4 	5 3pm Pathway to Success	6
7 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion	8 6pm Scouts	9	10 6pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	11	12 3pm Pathway to Success	13
14 Daylight savings begins 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30 am Deacon	15 6pm Scouts	16 9:30am food delivery	17 St. Patrick's Day 6pm Girl Scouts 	18 	19 3pm Pathway to Success	20 First Day of Spring 
21 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	22 6pm Scouts	23	24 6pm Girl Scouts	25	26 3pm Pathway to Success	27
28 Palm Sunday 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

## GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE

Mar. 7 Joan D.  
14 Arvid H.  
21 Megan J.  
28 Kenny H.



Apr. 4 Beth M  
11  
18 Cara W.  
25 Norma M.

## NURSERY SCHEDULE

Canceled during Covid 19

## COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

Mar. 7 Madhu S  
Apr. 4 Jill 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.



We are looking for a new Sunday School teacher to teach Arts and Crafts and play games with the kids every other weekend. Classes start at 9am. If you are interested please see Shirley. ~S.W.

## 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 327, 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

**Virginia Porter,** Care One Somerset Valley,  
1621 Rt 22, West Bound Brook, NJ 08805

**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

## A Year has Come and Gone

Last March we were faced with something none of us could ever imagine. What was to come only deepened our uncertainty. Soon we learned many places had to close including but not limited to Churches. Our country for the first time ever being faced with businesses closing, social distancing, face masks and gloves. We were lost in the lack of understanding, fearful for our loved ones but knew we had to do something. We First Presbyterian Church, Office of Emergency Management together with many city-wide groups band together to open an emergency food pantry. Untold hours have been spent by many just trying to keep up with the need. Unfortunately, unemployment checks were delayed, as many people were applying at the same time. Store shelves were not filled. Across the country very little was moving. Even if you had money the stores did not have the items. We opened the food bank for the first thirteen weeks, six days a week, knowing the need was dire. Not sure where or how we just opened in faith. However, by the Lord's grace each day we were able to fill the needs of the people calling for help. We felt by mid-June we could bring this down to two or three days a week. Thinking things would level off by then. Leveling off just did not happen. Throughout the summer into fall and winter more people were laid off or hours were cut. We have been blessed with many volunteers. This city once again stood tall providing all manner of assistance. One after the other would stop by or call to see what was needed this week. If you want to see your city in action, stop by on Wednesday morning. We have Wake-Fern donation, retired policemen pick it up, non-retires come unload, people from Saint Mary's, Friends of South Amboy and other area church members unpack and help distribute the food.

In His Service, Mary Porcello

### Items that we need for the Food Pantry :

Bar soap	Mashed Potatoes
Bread	Pancake mix
Canned chicken	Pancake Syrup
Canned hash	Paper towels
Canned soups	Peanut butter
Cereal	Pudding
Coffee	Sardines
Conditioner	Shampoo
Dish detergent	Tea bags
Facial tissues	Toilet paper
Jello	Toothpaste
Jelly	Tooth brushes
Juice	Tuna
Laundry detergent	Vegetables (canned)

## Palm Sunday --- March 28, 2021

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, Jews hailing him the Messiah waved leaves of the date palm. They also flourished palm leaves in the same city when Judas Maccabeus ended the Syrian occupation in 164 B.C.

In the Middle East, dates were a significant source of food during biblical times—pollinated trees could produce 125 pounds of nutritious fruit a year. They were eaten fresh or dried, and sometimes made into syrup or an alcoholic beverage. The trunks of palm trees were used for building materials and fuel, and also for household items such as ropes, brooms, and cloth. Artisans made baskets and mats with palm leaves. The palm tree is used as a metaphor for the righteous in Psalm 92:12: *The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon.*

Presbyterian Church (USA) is among several Christian denominations that are part of the Eco-Palms program, which offers churches the option to purchase palm fronds sustainably harvested from growers in Mexico and Guatemala. This is a significant contribution, particularly considering that over 300 million palm fronds are used yearly in the US, mostly for Palm Sunday services.

Sources: *Family Bible Cards, Grolier Inc. MCMXCVI and Presbyterian Mission:*

[www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/enough/eco-palms-2/](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/hunger/enough/eco-palms-2/)

Submitted by Molly Solanki

*Until God opens the next door, praise Him in the hallway!*

### International Women's Day, March 8, 2021

Christ our light: Show us the way as we work for equity among races, creeds and gender. Lord, hear us.

Jesus, friend of marginalized peoples everywhere: We pray for all those whose family [lives] are torn apart by violence and economic hardship. Lord, hear us.

Submitted by Molly Solanki

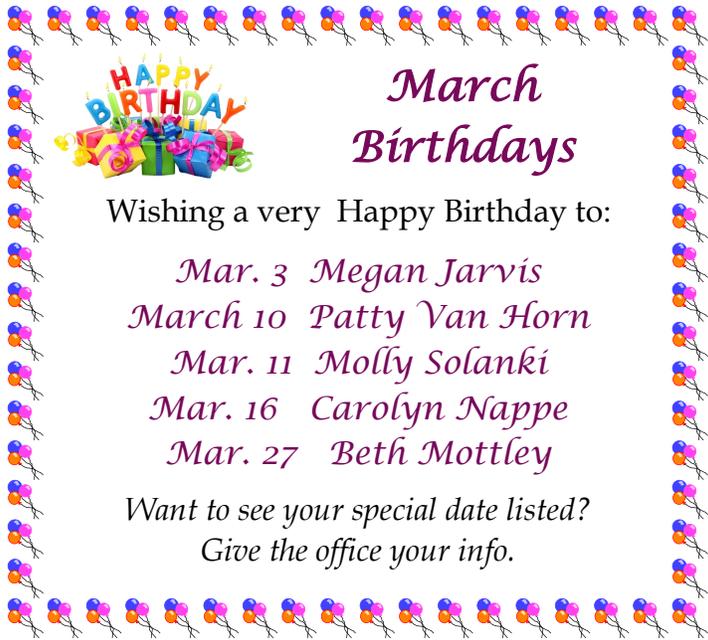
**We still have a lot of shirts left. Please consider buying one to support our Food Pantry**

**T-shirts \$15 each**

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

**Phone: 732-721-4516**





## March Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

- Mar. 3 Megan Jarvis*
- March 10 Patty Van Horn*
- Mar. 11 Molly Solanki*
- Mar. 16 Carolyn Nappe*
- Mar. 27 Beth Mottley*

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

## FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2021

Offerings	\$ 6,430
Covenant Income	3,671
God's Pocket	1,300
Designated Income	+391
Total Income	\$ 11,792
Disbursements	\$ -8,519

### -DEFINITION OF TITHING-

*submitted by Gail Hawkins Nov. 2013*

Malachi 3:8-12 "Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."

*Elaine Lopez, Treasurer*

## INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

This month was a weather challenge for me. The snow and ice kept me home. As of today, February 20, I have not gotten to Staples to recycle 20 used cartridges. Maybe next week. The weather did not hold back our Sister Church, United Trinity Methodist from collecting used cartridges and delivering them to my home. I love the way we work together and support each other with all of our Sister Churches. Trinity Methodist Thrift Store is open for business, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays 9 AM to 12 noon. Please support them. Keep up the good work. Praise God for always providing.

*Elaine Lopez*

## One Great Hour Of Sharing

*in a world of disaster, hunger, and oppression*

**Millions of people lack access to sustainable food sources, clean water, sanitation, education, and opportunity.**

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

One Great Hour of Sharing is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

**Please join us.**

**Easter Sunday April 4, at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM**

As Jesus says in Matthew 25, the Church belongs with those in need — whether it is offering relief from natural disasters or the ravages of war; access to food, water and healthcare; or coping with the pandemic. Through our gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing, we are there because we are the Church, together.

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world.

*This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.*

## Deacon's Monthly Update

We hope everyone enjoyed the Valentine's Day To-Go Luncheon we had on Sunday after service on Feb. 21.

~ Shirley Weaver  
(Photos to the right)



## World Day of Prayer March 5, 2021

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement that welcomes all to unite in prayer and action for peace and justice. The theme for this year is "Build a Strong Foundation" and is inspired by Matthew 7:24-27, the Jesus' parable about building on rock versus sand.

Submitted by Molly Solanki

Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. You will eat the fruit of your labor; *blessings and prosperity* will be yours.

Psalm 128:1-2



Happy Saint Patrick's Day

March, when days are getting long, Let thy growing hours be strong to set right some wintry wrong.  
Caroline May



Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener seems to be only one of his instruments, not the composer. *Geoffrey Charlesworth*  
Submitted by Molly Solanki



March 14th  
Don't Forget



**VENETIAN**  
Care & Rehabilitation Center

Debra Kurzawa  
External Case Manager

275 John T O'Leary Blvd, South Amboy, NJ 08879  
T 732.721.8200 • C 732.322.4840 • F 732.721.4438  
Efax 732.782.0331 • dkurzawa@venetiancc.com

**AMBOY**  
Bank

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

CELEBRATING  
**125**  
YEARS OF TRADITION

NEWARK • LIVINGSTON  
Website: pennroofingnj.com  
Email: pennroofing@gmail.com  
Residential/Commercial

(973) 481-9319  
(973) 992-ROOF  
1-800-608-ROOF (7663)  
FAX (973) 483-2456



SIDING • SHINGLES • EPDM • TPO • METAL ROOFING  
SLATE • MODIFIED • ROOF REMOVALS • ALL TYPES REPAIRS

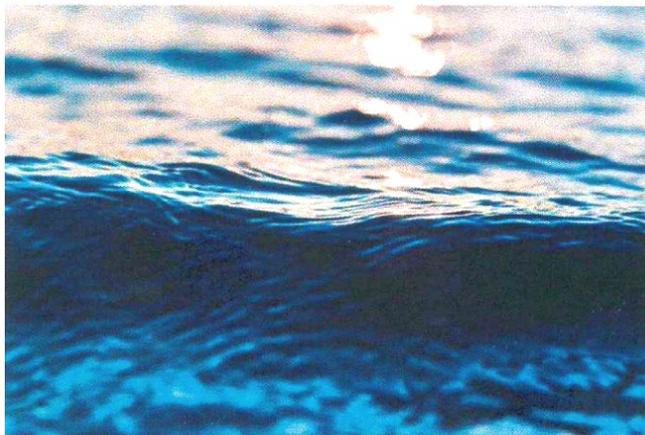
MAIN OFFICE  
19 Lister Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07105

**RON HARVEY**  
Owner/Estimator  
CELL (732) 551-8475

## 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



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](http://www.veritasrecoverycenter.com)

## REMEMBER

Always remember to forget  
The things that made you sad,  
But never forget to remember  
The things that made you glad.  
Always remember to forget  
The friends that proved untrue,  
But never forget to remember  
Those that have stuck by you.  
Always remember to forget  
The troubles that passed away,  
But never forget to remember  
The Blessing that come each day.  
~Author Unknown  
Submitted by Elaine Lopez

### Installation of Officers was on Feb. 14

Christine Vella, George Schafer, Ruth Beselinoff and Madhu Solanki were reinstalled into active service as Elders. Larry Wallace, was ordained and installed into active service as a Deacon, and Megan Jarvis and Jill Berwick were reinstalled into active service as Deacons.

### Sunday School

February came bringing a snowstorm that cancelled our Sunday School class as well as church worship service on the 7th. Valentine's Day brought us back to church but we had a scheduled day off from Sunday School. The next Sunday we were back to our study of Honoring and Obeying God!

*Philippians 2:14 "Do everything without complaining or arguing."*

Ms. Judy

### 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

# *the* OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

150 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879



## ***Redirected***

---

"The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps" Proverbs 16:9 (ESV)

One thing I have been reminded of since returning to this church is how much we love to get together. We love our Sunday morning fellowship, we love serving with one another, and we certainly love our parties like we had in the summer last year. "Where church feels like home" is more than just a catchy phrase, it's a core statement about who we are as a church.

It's hard to believe we are approaching a year since we closed our doors as the state of New Jersey locked down to combat the Covid-19 virus. When that happened, we found ourselves cut off from so many of the things that give us joy. Even now reports seem to come out every month further detailing the negative effects of isolation and loneliness during this unique time in our history. Our desire is to restore that spirit of close fellowship as soon as possible, especially as some in the medical community claim we can achieve "herd immunity" as soon as April of this year.

I am reminded of when David purposed in his heart to build a temple to the Lord in 2 Samuel 7. Though it was his great desire to do so, the Lord told him that was not His plan for him. The temple would get built, just not in David's timing. Moreover, God's plans for David were far greater than he imagined as God revealed that the Messiah would come through David's lineage. We have a similar hope as we look into the rest of 2021. Our heart was to have more events but the Lord redirected those plans.

Our prayer is that as we get closer to "herd immunity" to the virus, the Lord's plans for the rest of the year will be even greater than ours. Should it be the Lord's will there will be more small group bible studies, events, and you guessed it: parties!

Would you please join me in prayer for God to "establish our steps" this year? May He reveal His perfect plans to us that we may experience even greater things than our current hopes for the year. May the God "who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think" (Ephesians 3:20) direct and redirect us to greater things. Amen.

God Bless,

***John Mottley***