,

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*

Website: *www.fpcsachurch.org*

Facebook page: *fpcsamboy*

Phone: *732-721-4516*

Fax: *732-721-9208*

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Sunday School Oct—June 9:00 am

May

May 2023

Let your face shine on your servant;
save me in your unfailing love.

Psalm 31:16

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6pm Scouts	2	3 6pm Girl Scouts	4 12pm National Day of Prayer at city hall flag pole	5 3pm Pathway to Success	6
7 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 11:30 am Deacon	8 6pm Scouts	9 5pm Boy Scout's Fish Dinner	10 6pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	11	12 3pm Pathway to Success	13
14 **Mother's Day** 10:30am Worship	15 6pm Scouts	16 Food Delivery	17 2:30pm Session 6pm Girl Scouts	18	19 3pm Pathway to Success	20
21 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	22 6pm Scouts	23 8am Open Door Articles due	24 6pm Girl Scouts	25	26 3pm Pathway to Success	27
28 **Pentecost** 10:30am Worship	29 **Memorial Day** Office Closed	30	31 6pm Girl Scouts			

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AMBOY Bank

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South Amboy, NJ 08879
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VERITAS RECOVERY CENTER

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Substance Use Disorder and Inpatient Withdrawal Management

Prayers for Our Homebound Members & Friends

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

Carla Ring,
1084 Mulberry Pl, Toms River, NJ 08753

Deborah 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 - Elizabeth Pinella
TREASURER - Elaine Lopez
SECRETARY - Shirley Weaver
ORGANISTS - Phyllis Chao & Sharon Munoz
SEXTONS - Erin Gualdarrama & Shirley Weaver
MISSION CHAIR - Ruth Beselinoff
SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL - Shirley Weaver

As of Feb. 2023

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

1 Elder TBD	1 Deacon TBD
Joan Downes	Molly Solanki
Elaine Lopez	Arvid Holt

YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

(Responsible for governing our church affairs)

Ruth Beselinoff	Chris Adams
Mary Porcello	George Schaefer
Madhu Solanki	

YOUR DEACONS

(Responsible for assisting our church and community in times of need)

Jill Berwick	Megan Jarvis
Sherry Kuo	Elizabeth Pinella
Joyce Solanki	Larry Wallace

Boy Scout's
Fish Dinner
May 9, 5 pm –7pm
Drive thru/Take out
Tickets are $17

All tickets must be purchased prior to the event. Please see Ruth or Joe to purchase tickets. Make checks out to "The Camp Dill Foundation"

14th Annual Bowl for Hunger

Monday,
July 17th, 2023
5:30 - 7:30 pm
at Majestic Lanes

$25 per person

Includes two hours of bowling, free shoe rental and a "Bowl for Hunger" T-shirt.
See Shirley if you want to sign up for this year's team.
This event supports our food pantry.
RSVP needed by June 25th.

PAVERS

It's that time of year again! We are selling engraved pavers for our "Memorial Paver Garden" out front. Want one? Complete a form and hand it in with your payment. Forms are available on our website and in the mailroom at the church. For more information, contact Shirley in the church office.

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.

May Anniversaries

Wishing a very happy anniversary to:

May 7
Madhu & Joyce Solanki

May Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

May 3 Anthony Vella
May 9 Michael "Mikey" Pinella
May 9 Morgan Mottley
May 9 Madison Mottley
May 15 Keith Sutter
May 17 Betty Reilly
May 29 Sherry Kuo

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

HELP!!!

I love COFFEE HOUR, don't you? In order to enjoy that time together, we need volunteers to host one coffee hour a season. We have funds to pay for your expenses. No volunteers — No coffee hour. We can do this! Elaine Lopez

Registration forms are in the mailroom if you want to sign up or volunteer for
C.V.B.S.
July 17– 21, 2023
9am-12:15pm

at St. Bernadette Church, Lourdes Center in Parlin

Closing Program is Friday, July 21, 2023 @ 7pm

Never Doubt the Power of Prayer

Prayer is a sin killer, A sick healer, A victory gainer, A blessing promoter, Keep on praying, You have the power within, Pray more—Worry less, Be persistent in prayer, Keep believing, Keep the faith, Keep God first!

BOARD OF DEACONS

The deacons wish everyone a Happy Mother's Day!
We will have a special gift for the ladies after service.

Dear Lord, thank you for the season of spring. Your expression of joy and rebirth. Let every bloom remind us of your grace. Let every sunny day brighten our soul. Let the warmer temperatures bring warm thoughts and kindness.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.
Our next meeting is May 7th 2023
Betty Pinella

Deacons T-shirts

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

T-shirts $15 each

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

On April 18th our food pantry received its first order of fresh produce through the Community Food Bank of NJ. What a blessing it was to be able to share fresh spinach with our community. ~SW

Deacons Easter Luncheon

FINANCIAL REPORT

MARCH 2023

Offerings	$ 5,848
Covenant Income	2,726
God's Pocket	250
Designated Income	+305
Total Income	**$ 9,129**
Disbursements	**$-20,013**

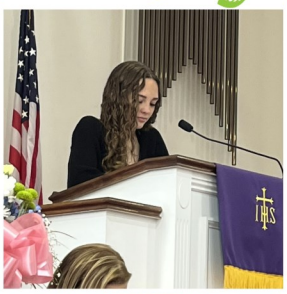
MATTHEW 10:8
"Freely you have received, freely give."
Elaine Lopez, Treasurer

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

We were blessed again by our sister church United Methodist for collecting and donating used ink cartridges for us. This month we thanked them back by ordering a case of copy paper for them. Cost = $51.99. We received $40.00 in rewards and only paid $11.99. Keep the used cartridges coming. Thank you!!!!!

Elaine Lopez

Palm Sunday Kids Program



Palm Sunday Children's Program

We are so proud of all our kids for the wonderful program they put on for us. They did an outstanding job performing the skit "Resurrection Eggs" during worship service on April 2, 2023. Thank you to our teachers Judy and Shirley for practicing with the kids and helping them during the show.

Beautiful Mother's Day Bible Verse

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her" *Proverbs 31:25-28*

Happy Mother's Day!

Children are born on the same day to the same mother but they are not twins. **How is that possible?** *They are two of a set of triplets.*

A mother has six girls and each of them has a brother. **How many children are there?** *SEVEN. Each girl has the same brother!*

Jimmy's mother had four children. She named the first Monday. She named the second Tuesday, and she named the third Wednesday. **What is the name of the fourth child?** *Jimmy, because Jimmy's mother had four children!*

What did the mama volcano say to the baby volcano? *Don't erupt while I'm talking.*

Why was the mother firefly so happy? *Because her children were all so bright.*

What kind of flowers is best for Mother's Day? Mums!

Why do mothers have to have two visits to the optometrist?
Because they also have eyes in the back of their head.

Submitted by Molly Solanki

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7 (NIV)

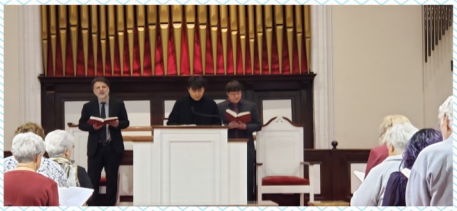
I HAD AN INSIGHTFUL DREAM where I was riding a bike through our town of Boulder, Colorado, carrying all three of my adult sons. One was on the handlebars, and the other two were in a cart I was pulling. I was struggling to ride up a hill. I glanced at my feet, exerting all of my strength, but I was unable to pedal because of the heavy load. This dream gracefully awakened me to grasp that I still worry about my children, even though they are capable adults.

I know the boys don't want me to worry about them. And Jesus doesn't want us to be anxious about anything either. He says, "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me" (John 14:1, NKJV). Learning to trust Jesus and actually letting go is an ongoing mom struggle for me. But awareness of my worry, such as a stressful dream, is a beginning to overcoming it.

Reading scriptures, like the one above, and practicing what they say helps too. I saturate my day with prayers, overflowing with gratitude. I tell Jesus every detail of my life. I ask for His unexplainable peace and to guard my heart and mind. Basically, I get off my bike and let Jesus pedal up the hill. —JEANNIE BLACKMER

FAITH STEP: *Keep a notebook by your bed, and if you remember a dream, write it down. Then contemplate it to see what message Jesus has for you.*

Communal Maundy Thursday



COMMUNAL GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

Communal Maundy Thursday Service hosted at Sayreville United Methodist on April 6, and a Communal Good Friday Service hosted here at First Presbyterian Church So. Amboy on April 7. It was such a blessing to worship and praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ together as a community!

Happy Easter!

Our Sanctuary all decorated with beautiful Easter lilies and hyacinths! Thank you Jean Greene and Weaver family for setting it up.

"Be still, and know that I am God…" *Psalm 46:10*

"In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen, we can hear the whisper of the heart giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair."
~ Howard Thurman

"Stillness is our most intense mode of action. It is in our moments of deep quiet that is born every idea, emotion, and drive which we eventually honor with the name of action. We reach highest in meditation, and farthest in prayer. In stillness every human being is great."
~ Leonard Bernstein

"Let your mind and soul be at ease. Don't grasp and grab for the magic and miracles. When you reside in that place of stillness, the joy, miracles, and magic you're seeking will find you."
~ Melody Beattie

"Inner stillness is the key to outer strength." ~ Jared Brock

"Whenever there is stillness there is the still small voice, God's speaking from the whirlwind, nature's old song, and dance."
~ Annie Dillard

Submitted by Molly Solanki

the OPEN DOOR
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 North Broadway
South Amboy, NJ 08879

A Rich Heritage

"Things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done." Psalm 78:3-4 (ESV)

I recently had the great privilege to review some of our historical documents and it brought great joy to my heart to get a glimpse into the history this church has had. We have such a rich spiritual heritage.

This week I read about a church that had to have two separate services on Sunday morning just to fit everyone in the building. I read about a church that had a "double digit" number of baptisms on its annual report and many others transferring their membership to this church. I read about a thriving men's ministry that took place through the church that quipped in one of its reports, "We collect no dues, all donations are for the furtherance of God's Word."

As I poured over this rich history I found myself saying, "Wow, who wouldn't want to attend *this* church?!" I am so proud to say that *I do*! The church that did all those things is the same community of God's redeemed people that I have the privilege of being a part of today.

One of my favorite stories of our church I actually heard from our beloved twins Jean and Joan, who shared a still vivid memory of one of their first pastors at First Presbyterian who would "pound on that pulpit and wave that bible around as he preached." Perhaps I love that story so much because I resemble that from time to time!

Many individuals have passed through our doors and our member books since then, but our church today is grounded in the same mission, taught by the same Word of God, and is empowered by the same Holy Spirit that did all these great things in times past.

While it's easy to look back on our history and feel "nostalgic" or long for what we used to be, I think the healthiest thing to do is be reminded of how God has shown such favor upon us in the past and press forward for what God plans to do next! Let us strive to be the church that God blesses in the future, because we too have honored His Word and cared for His people. Let us strive to be a people that loves God too much to "keep him to ourselves" but "be a light to Broadway" as our original founders envisioned us. Let us stand on the shoulders of the giants who have gone before us and continue to glorify the name of Jesus from the depths of our hearts, that all may know that we are Christians by our love for God and for one another!

Pastor John Mottley