

CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 22, No. 5

May 2022





8th—Happy Mother's Day





15th—Music Sunday

29th—Jeans Sunday



30th—Memorial Day (Office Closed)



Every Sunday—10am Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and then available on YouTube for later viewing

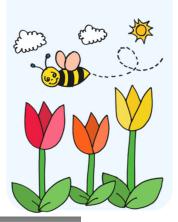
Every Saturday—Daisey Roe Thrift Shop is open from 9am-12pm



Our Mission Statement:

Our mission is to gather as a church family for worship and spiritual fellowship, to nurture and educate, and to proclaim the gospel to the world.

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CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH P.O. BOX 1 5 WANTAGE AVE. BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826



VOLUME 22 NO. 4

APRIL 2022

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Update on Our PVR



Back in 2008 we had BIG dreams for our sanctuary, which was bursting at the seams with worshipers. We had plans made up by an architect to expand the sanctuary by re-doing the chancel area so that it would hold more choir members. This meant removing two rows of the front pews, which would be made up for as we extended the balcony out over an enlarged entryway which was to have a bathroom, coat-hanging area, a set of steps up to the expanded balcony, and another set of stairs that connected balcony, lobby, and basement. We were all set to begin this expansion right when the Recession hit.

Giving dropped, Headstart moved (and took the rent money they paid with them), and attendance dropped—which meant giving decreased as well. We had to scrap the plans we'd made for the sanctuary expansion and do our best to just survive.

A couple of years passed, and there was sadness that the economy had *done us so wrong*, but the building still had things that needed addressing. So that's when the Vision began—to renew our facilities back to what they had been, or even to improve. In the fall of 2009 the Session brainstormed a wall-full of ideas for our buildings. We then prioritized that list and set out to tackle them one at a time, rather than all at once as we'd previously thought we would do.

In the 13 years since we made that Past Vision Renewed list of priorities, we've accomplished a lot! The list is on the wall of the Fellowship Hall, and here is what we've completed so far:

- Paint and Paper the Sanctuary, refinish the wood floors
- Paint the front of the church and the steeple
- Paint the stairs & ramp on the front of the church (we've now done this multiple times since then)
- Purchase and equip a coffee booth trailer
- Get hearing-enhancement headsets for the Sanctuary
- Upgrade the heating system in the Fellowship Hall
- Replace all of the windows in the Fellowship Hall
- Restore the front of the Sanctuary and repair the Steeple

That's a LOT of fixing-up and restoration of our buildings. And now it's time to work on the next item: Replace the ramp with a lift/elevator up to the Sanctuary.

About 25 years ago we added a ramp up to the sanctuary that allowed those with mobility challenges to more easily get into the church. It has served us well over that time, but the wood is starting to rot (despite the many coats of paint we've given it) and the metal brackets supporting that wood is rusting. Also, during the winter the snow slides off the roof and piles up on the ramp, making it unusable for months at a time.

So we're looking into possibilities for putting in a wheelchair lift so that it will be even easier for our whole church family to enter to worship. Due to our members' generosity we already have a jumpstart on saving for it, but we still have a ways to go until this can become a reality, so please keep the PVR in your donation considerations, and watch for further news about this project.

Thanks, and I'll see you in church,

gefferson L. Hatch



Please offer prayers for these concerns that have been brought to our attention. They are collected each Sunday morning during the past month from the prayer concerns list used in worship.

- All those in harm's way
- The family of Andy Guido after his recent passing
- Anna Clausen
- The Bambrick & Seeger family after Bill's passing
- Barbara
- The Decker family in dealing with the loss of Nana Gale Eamigh
- Ben with Cancer
- Beth
- Bill
- Bob
- Bonnie
- Carol
- Caroline & Bob
- Charles
- Chick Krug in the hospital
- Continued recovery for Jerry Houghtaling
- Joan Bischoff continued recovery

- Crystal Sinclair
- Dave Marion
- Donna
- Dorothy
- Ed & Kathy Smith hopefully home soon after surgery
- Elsa
- Prayers for a good outcome to Ernie Hardcastle's surgery
- Baby Greyson Wunder in Morristown Hospital
- Harry
- Heather
- Irene
- James
- Jeanie Magrino
- Jim Anderson that he has successful hip surgery and recovery (this is not Debbie's husband)
- Joanne
- Joanna Chase
- John F.
- Joyce O.
- Karen M.
- Kathy
- Kathy Smith and her family
- Kipp Cash
- Lewis
- Linda
- Lisa
- Makenzi
- Marie
- Thanks that Judy Casey's daughter Poppy is becoming a U.S. citizen

- Rich Havens
- Joyful thanks for the birth of Rio Hunter Foditch, which makes Liz & Dave Yaden grandparents
- Ronnie
- Ruth Lozier
- Sandra who has surgery on her neck this coming Thursday
- Sylvia
- The Bambrick-Stolk family.
- The Schwartz-Nees family after the death of Heather
- The Stroud family after the loss of Linda's cousin Lisa
- Tonnes
- Vera with Cancer
- We ask your prayers of comfort to the family of the Rev. Dr. William Edsall who previously pastored the UMC in Branchville and passed away suddenly this past week
- Will—dealing with the new phase of his diabetes





2ND QUARTER MISSION — Our local focus for April, May, and June is Communities' Little Helpers. This group of children up to 12 years old, led by our own Kristen Reinertsen, gathers to perform acts of community service and kindness. They visit with, make crafts for, shop for, and donate to



those in need. One of their traditional projects is to create gift bags for children admitted to the Newton hospital! Your contributions allow them to pur-

chase items that are necessary for their program activities while they learn the value of helping others. You can mark your pew donation envelope for quarterly mission or memo "CLH" on your check made out to FPCB or use the QR Code to make your donation. Thanks for giving to this local cause!

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DAISEY ROE CHAIN

<u>FLEA MARKET</u> — Saturday, May 14th, 9:00am - 2:00pm. Maybe you rented a table or maybe you plan to come have coffee/bagels and shop and stay for lunch. Daisey Roe members have you volunteered to help? Volunteers are needed at this event, helping at flea market and our thrift shop. Please join the fun!





<u>DAISEY ROE CHAIN'S SPRING FUNDRAISER</u> — May is planting time and our spring flower fundraiser is on at C & C Growers. Pick up your bright pink flyer to take with you to receive your 10% discount. Money will help support Presbyterian Mission Agency.

<u>THE DAISEY ROE THRIFT SHOP</u> — We appreciate and thank you for your donations to our Thrift Shop, however, we ask you NOT to leave items on breezeway. Items may be left in the Fellowship Hall or church basement. Call the church office (973-948-3495) to make arrangements to leave items. The Daisey Roe ladies will accept CLEAN, REUSEABLE ITEMS. Please, NO manuals, textbooks or medical books, electronics, mirrors, or baby furniture. Open Saturdays 9am-noon.



Daisey Roe members watch for news for our June 8th luncheon.



<u>SIGN-UP TO BE AN USHER</u> - Below is the link to the Usher sign-up form. If you would like to volunteer to be an usher, just use the link and add your name to the date you would like to sign-up for any week this year. Thank you!



https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PtxTt-j8tGs0Zil6mgjJbgQPKFspneu6pjxvsQWuPd8/edit



FOOD PANTRY - Our Food Pantry always needs re-stocking in these uncertain times, and donations of paper products are in need. Please consider donating to this continuous need in our community.

<u>JEANS SUNDAY</u> - May 29th at 10am, we will spend our time together in service planting flowers, trimming bushes, raking, mulching, and anything else we can do to make our church grounds more beautiful. We're glad we can be together again in-person. Please join us to make our church grounds even more beautiful!





MANNA HOUSE \$5 SPAGHETTI DINNER - Take-out only, First Presbyterian Church, 54 High St. Newton (Church Street Entrance), May 10th, 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Adults \$5.00, Children 5-12 \$3.00, and under 5 Free. (Included are Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, and Cookies.)

<u>MUSIC SUNDAY</u> - Come one, come all and sign-up for Music Sunday, May 15, 2022. We would love to have a variety of musical offerings. Everyone is invited to participate. It doesn't have to be fancy – if you would like to sing, dance, play an instrument, or do anything to share your talents with the congregation, then please sign up to participate. See or call Kay Hatch (973-459-1238) to sign up. Thank you!



APRIL SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- 11 people attended our Lenten study class via Zoom, including out-of-towners Barbara Hardcastle & Maria Devita Krug.
- Mother's Day Service will be held on May 8, 2022.
- Music Sunday will be held on May 15, 2022.
- Pentecost Sunday will be held on June 5, 2022.
- Trinity Sunday and Youth Sunday will be held on June 12, 2022.
- Father's Day service will be held on June 19, 2022.
- Jeff Lutz has fixed a leak in the steeple.
- A plumber has fixed the toilets in the downstairs of the church and also in Pastor Jeff's office.



WHO'S YOUR FARMER?

Looking for fresh just-picked produce to serve to your family? Then look no further than **Wykertown Farms LLC** which operates a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Program just 3 miles from the church.

"What is a CSA?" you ask. It's a commitment between shareholders and their farmer. By entering the CSA agreement, shareholders agree that they will share in the bountiful harvest of fresh produce when the growing season is good, as well as the inherent risks of the farming operation (poor weather, drought, disease, animal impacts, early/late frost, crop failure and so on) in a bad season.

Wykertown Farms LLC is owned by our church member Cully Opilla. The CSA Program here is a "true" CSA - meaning we order the seeds, plant the seeds in our two greenhouses or field, take care of plants throughout the growing season, harvest produce when ready, and make it available for pick up twice a week. Nothing is brought in from other farms. Our shareholders know exactly where their produce is coming from and how it is grown because they can see it.

What are we planting this year? Below is a partial list:

Beans—variety	 Lettuce—variety 	purple
Beets—variety	 Radishes—variety 	Snap Peas
Broccoli	• Spinach	Kohlrabi
Cabbage	 Tomatoes—variety 	• Fennel
Carrots—variety	 Peppers—variety 	
Cucumbers	Summer Squash	Collard Greens
Eggplant—purple and Asian	• Zucchini	Celery
• Herbs	•Squashes—variety	• Garlic
• Kale	Brussel Sprouts—green &	• Onions

We also have fresh eggs as an extra for \$4/dozen.

CSA PRICING:

- **♦ Full Share—\$650**
- ♦ 1/2 Share —\$375

Growing season is expected to be 20 weeks, from June through October.

WYKERTOWN FARMS CSA, CULLY OPILLA
138 WYKERTOWN ROAD
BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826
(973) 222-8942 OR (973) 875-3304

MAY 2022 CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY

Karen Opilla	5/7	Connie Leenheer	5/22
Laura Scherr	5/7	William Loos	5/23
Gail Burckes	5/8	Jean Ransom	5/23
Aeliana Opilla	5/9	Lois Kinney	5/25
Stacey Van Houten	5/9	John Grau Ó	5/28
Emily Billings	5/11	Meryl Kurland	5/29
Debbie Guile	5/13	Gay Plog	5/31
Tom McCurdy	5/13		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

TACO SALAD CASSEROLE

INGREDIENTS:

1 pound ground beef

1/4 cup chopped onion

1/4 cup chopped green pepper

1 envelope taco seasoning

1/2 cup water

1 cup crushed tortilla chips

1 can (16 ounces) refried beans

1 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Toppings: chopped lettuce and tomatoes, sliced ripe olives, sour cream and picante sauce



DIRECTIONS:

In a large skillet, cook beef, onion and green pepper over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Stir in taco seasoning and water. Cook and stir until thickened, about 3 minutes; set aside.

Place chips in a greased 8-in. square baking dish. In a small bowl, stir refried beans; spread over chips. Top with beef mixture and cheese.

Bake, uncovered, at 375° until heated through, 15-20 minutes. Top with lettuce, tomatoes and olives. Serve with sour cream and picante sauce.



May

LAY READERS

1st – Linda Osbourne

8th – Paula Clark

15th – Cathy Bambrick

22nd - Rodger Gibbons

29th – Jeans Sunday (no lay reader)

USHERS

1st - Bev Keur/Kathy Katzenstein

8th - Gay Plog/John Newcomer

15th – Bev Simons/Nancy Clink

22nd - Gail Burckes/Krista MacCallum

29th - Donna Havelin/Paula Clark

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville
PO Box 1
3-5 Wantage Avenue
Branchville, NJ 07826
Phone 973-948-3495 Fax 973-948-3495

View our website at:

http://www.fpcbranchville.org

and Facebook at:
http://www.facebook.com
(ask to be friends with "pastorjh@ptd.net")

You may e-mail the secretary at presbsec@ptd.net or the pastor at pastorjh@ptd.net

View a daily devotion at: http://www.d365.org





MAY COFFEE HOUR

Hosted by: DAISEY ROE

APRIL FLOWER CHART:

If you would like to provide flowers for any of the dates, please see instructions below:

Dates:

1st- Open

8th- Open

15th- Open

22nd-Open

29th- Open

Call Lisa the week before your signup to have flowers delivered. Gail Burckes will contact you for your dedication or memorial.

Flowers By Lisa 862-268-3123





MAY 2022



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, NJ

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 AM Worship	10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry	5:00 PM - 6:15 PM Girl Scouts' Meeting	10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Panty	10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry	12:15 PM - 1:15 PM Branchville Rotary	9:00 AM -12:00 PM Daisey Roe Thrift Shop
11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Bells of Branchville	3:00 PM Music &	Coodio Mooding	7:30 PM Boy Scouts'	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Meeting	Buildey 1 too 1 mile on op
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11:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Food Pantry	Meeting at Camp Johnsonburg	Food Panty	Food Pantry	Branchville Rotary Meeting	Market/Thrift Shop
Bells of Branchville	7:00 PM Session Meeting via Zoom	Joinsonbulg	7:30 PM Boy Scouts' Meeting	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Chancel Choir	Weeting	
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
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6 th Sunday						
of Easter			P			Thrift Shop
29	30	31				
10:00 AM Jeans	Office Closed!	5:00 PM - 6:15 PM Girl		Арт 2022	Jun 2022	
Sunday	(Memorial Day)	Scouts' Meeting	S M	T W T F S	S M T W T	3 4
	Memorial Day		3 4	5 6 7 8 9	5 6 7 8 9	10 11
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