



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 24, No. 6

June 2024

JUNE AT A GLANCE:

2nd – Discernment Meeting/Potluck



9th – Music Sunday



14th – Flag Day



16th – Father's Day



20th – Summer Begins



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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.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826



VOLUME 24, NO. 6

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A NOTE FROM OUR PASTORS

Dear Friends:

“Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God” (Luke 18:16)

Our granddaughter, Juniper, is getting ready for kindergarten in the fall. There have been tests and conversations to see if she is ready (and she is REALLY ready), an open house and orientation and lots of excitement. Her parents and her preschool teachers have prepared her for this momentous transition to kindergarten.

We the church, - the body of Christ, the family of God – have made commitments to the children in our midst. The Directory for Worship (part of the Book of Order) says this: “The congregation as a whole, on behalf of the Church universal, assumes responsibility for nurturing the baptized person in the Christian life...” The entire community makes this promise to support and encourage the baptized person; and all members of the congregation are responsible for fulfilling this promise.

A significant part of the nurture of our children is including them in worship. It is a powerful experience for a child to see his or her parents in prayer, song, and hearing God’s word with the community of the congregation. Worship is intended for the complete family of God of all ages.

We are blessed with some dedicated adults who teach our children in Sunday School. We are also blessed with some amazing children! As we explore new ways to include children in the life of the church, let us remember our promises made at baptism. Take time to smile and say hello or welcome to the children in our midst. And encourage their parents with grace and gratitude for bringing their children to worship.

See you in church!

In faith, hope and love,
Pastor David & Pastor Nancy

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Prayer Requests

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

- Amy
- Anita
- All suffering from cancer
- All those fighting addiction.
- All who have passed on.
- Amy D.
- Arthur Brooks
- Audrey Kimble
- Barbara S., Beth, Amy L. all fighting cancer.
- Bev
- Bill Smith
- Bob Sandberg
- Bobby
- Charlie
- Cindy Jones
- Cory T.
- Cory Yaw
- Dave Webley
- Haley Schultz
- John Newcomer
- John Preasher
- Joyce
- Joyce O.
- Karen
- Karen M.
- Kenny
- Kirsta
- Kristin MacCallum
- Lori R.
- May Ellen
- Molly Young
- Mr. Pipers as he comes to the end of his journey.
- Penny
- Robyn
- Ruth B.
- Sharon Lee fighting cancer.
- The Family of Edmund Zukowski on his passing.
- The Judson Family
- The Family of Nanny Gore on her passing.
- The Malmstrum Family
- The McAuliffe Family
- The Potts Family
- The Wheeler Family
- Those living alone.
- Tom Coulter, Paula Opilla, John & Connie Dubas

JOY

- Welcome Baby Kendall. Debbie & Steve Grimm's 1st Grandchild.



Church News

2ND QUARTER MISSION - ShelterBox USA is a top-rated charity that helps families affected by natural disaster around the world. With a score of 93% by Charity Navigator, this organization believes that all families require shelter - and that all families deserve to feel like their shelter is a home. Shelter Box delivers disaster relief by providing emergency shelters and the tools needed to help rebuild and recover after the event of a natural disaster. These tools include family-sized tents, solar lights, temporary shelter build kits, blankets, mosquito nets, water filters and carriers, and sturdy, portable kitchen sets. Their disaster relief projects have positively impacted families dealing with situations including flooding, earthquakes, storms, and war in places such as Syria, Turkey, India, the Caribbean, and Ukraine. As Presbyterians, we are dedicated to providing relief to those in need and the Mission Committee is excited to support this new cause. Please consider donating to the 2nd Quarter Mission over the next three months to make a difference in the lives of those families facing unthinkable situations.



For more information about ShelterBox, go to <https://www.shelterboxusa.org/>



Potluck

DISCERNMENT TEAM NEWS! An essential part of the work we are doing during this interim period is taking a good look at ourselves - our history and traditions, our hopes and dreams, and our leadership needs and expectations. Our Discernment Team has been hard at work already. They put up a **TIMELINE** in the Fellowship Hall. It will have many significant events in

the life of our congregation. **THEY ARE ASKING YOU TO HELP THEM FILL IN THE BLANKS** on Sunday, June 2nd, when we will have a potluck lunch and the opportunity to add to the Timeline. We hope to see you then!

JOIN US FOR WALK N' TALK: 8AM-9AM Summer hours, June 1st to September 1st. Monday thru Saturday: On Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday we walk around the circle by Selective Insurance, (the old fairgrounds), or through town. We park and meet by the tennis courts. Tuesday at Frankford Park, we park and meet by the basketball court. Thursday at Woodbourne Park, we park and meet by the first parking lot. Any questions? Contact Bev Keur 973-670-7320.

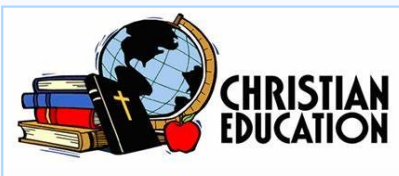


Lunch

DAISEY ROE LUNCHEON will be Wednesday, June 12th at the Barnyard Restaurant 12:00 pm. We will order from the menu and pay individually. After lunch we will return to Room 4 for our meeting and dessert. Hope you'll join us!

SUCCESSFUL FLEA MARKET — Thanks to our church family and friends for our successful Spring Flea Market. Special thanks to Co-Chairwomen Marion Alden and Beverly Keur, and thanks to Daisey Roe Members for volunteering!





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

- ◇ Our last day for SS will be June 2nd with a celebration in church where the children will participate in the service. Many thanks go out to our volunteers who stepped up and made our SS possible this year. This includes Debbie Anderson, Julie Clawson, Kristen Reinersten, Linda Osborne, Karen Opilla, and Lisa Hughes. Another major thank you goes to our SS teaching assistant, Liz Dietz, who's endless support for our children shines through week after week!
- ◇ We are excited to announce we will be supporting Frankford Plains Methodist church in Augusta with their VBS program. They have a fun and dynamic VBS which has been going or 60+ years! This year it will be the week of August 12th to 16th. Please inquire at: frankfordplainschurch@gmail.com or call the church office at 973-702-0334. We need VBS volunteers. Use the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall to let us know if you're interested.
- ◇ Please mark your calendars for this year's "Rally Day" to be held on Sunday, Sept 8th.
- ◇ We are required by our church (P.C.U.S.A.) to do background checks on anyone who volunteers with children and youth. Those of us who will be volunteering for Vacation Bible School at Frankford Plains Methodist need to have these checks done. After doing some research, the Christian Education committee will make a recommendation to the session that we work with Shepherd's Watch. The forms for volunteers will be filled out online, results will be sent to Pastor Nancy Young and kept in confidential files in the pastors' office. This is one more way we can ensure the safety of our children and of our volunteers. Watch for more information.

ADULT EDUCATION

- ◇ The last meeting of our Women's book study of The Red Tent will be Wednesday June 19th, 4:30-6pm. Upcoming meetings and the new book will be discussed on that day.
- ◇ **226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PCUSA, JUNE 25 – JULY 4** — What is General Assembly? What kind of business happens at this national meeting? And what does it have to do with us?! Our Pastor's will host two GA conversations during Fellowship time after worship. The first will be June 23. We will look at some of the business coming before General Assembly. The second conversation will be on July `4, where we will discuss what took place, and look at any possible changes for the life of our larger church, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Grab a cup of coffee or a cold drink and join the conversation.
- ◇ The trip to Bap's Hindu Temple in Robbinsville, NJ will be Wednesday, June 26th. We will meet at 8:30am to carpool down. The visit will include a tour, followed by lunch in their cafeteria. This will be a very educational and memorable trip. Please view their website to become familiar before the visit at <https://www.baps.org>. See signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

WORSHIP NOTES

After we confess ourselves as sinful, frail and limited, we hear the words of grace and forgiveness in the Assurance of Pardon. Then we sing the Gloria Patri. Odd, isn't it, that we use this Latin title instead of Glory to the Father or Glory to God. It is, however, so appropriate that we sing these words at this point. This is a moment of praise and thanksgiving to God for the gift of forgiveness and reconciliation. We are then invited to greet one another with the peace of Christ. Then we are prepared and eager to hear a word from the Lord. We are forgiven, reconciled in peace with one another and with God. We are ready!

MAY SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (3/04)

- Opening balance this month is \$95,001.53
- 4th Per Capita payment was made of \$626.88
- 1 quarter missions paid to Harvest Home and Manna House \$906.
- New computer purchased for church office \$897.
- New Covenant distribution received \$4016.
- Received a donation of \$500 towards new sound system.
- Camp Johnsonburg donation paid \$622.50
- One Great Hour of Sharing paid \$622.50.
- The baptism of Lily Williams will be held on June 30th.
- A new website design & development project by Julie Raffety was approved.
- Mission Fair and Rally Day to be held on September 8th.
- Discernment team has met and is making plans for a pot luck luncheon and time line event scheduled for June 2.
- Our roll count is now 177.
- The new kitchen stove is hooked up and ready to go.
- Volunteers are needed for Sunday School and Vacation Bible School. Please sign up.
- Per Capita and pledges are still lagging behind.
- The church directory has been updated and copies are available in Fellowship Hall.





Step Up and Out for Stewardship

For everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Stewardship

It's so easy for us to use the summer months for rest and relaxation in our personal life, and in our spiritual life. We may take time away from worship because we are traveling and taking vacations. Let this be a time that we contemplate how to develop new ways to encourage faithful, regular giving during the summer. Contemplate how to help our children and youth learn what it means to be good stewards. Contemplate how this can happen as we share their time and resources engaging in our missions.

As school and Sunday school are wrapping up for the 2023-2024 year, please use your stewardship of time, talent, and creativity in church, in the community and in your personal life. Spread the love while your rest, relax and recharge. Please include in your prayers to see, understand Christian kindness and a guidance for stewardship to be beneficial for the Summer.

Yours In Peace, Faith & Fellowship –

Susan Parson

Stewardship Chair

sepk@icloud.com

551.358.1266

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUNE

Cassandra Hardy	6/5	Linda Buehrer	6/24
Bob Price	6/6	Steve Leenheer	6/26
Gary Snyder	6/7		
Betty Willis	6/16		
Deanna Nussberger	6/17		
Cindy Clark	6/24		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Fresh Strawberry Jam

INGREDIENTS

- 2 qt. fresh strawberries (about 2lbs.) hulled and chopped
- 3 cups granulated sugar
- 5 tablespoons fresh lemon juice (from 2 large lemons)



PREPARATION

1. Stir together strawberries and sugar in a large saucepan. Cook over medium, stirring occasionally, until sugar dissolves. Stir in lemon juice. Increase heat to medium-high; let mixture come to a boil, stirring often. Continue boiling over medium-high, stirring often, 1 minute.
2. Reduce heat to medium. Attach a candy thermometer to saucepan; simmer mixture over medium, stirring often, until mixture reaches 220°F, about 30 minutes
3. Immediately ladle jam into 2 (2-cup) sterilized canning jars. Cover jars with lids, and let cool completely at room temperature, about 2 hours. Store in refrigerator up to 2 months.



JUNE VOLUNTEERS

USHERS

Deacon of the Month— Debbie Anderson
2nd – Judy Casey/Nancy Clink
9th – Lisa Hughes/Linda Osborne
16th – OPEN/OPEN
23rd – John Newcomer/OPEN
30th – John Newcomer/OPEN

LAY READERS

2nd – Debbie Gardner
9th – Debbie Anderson
16th – OPEN
23rd – Becky Williams
30th – OPEN



DEACONS COFFEE HOUR

DAISEY ROE

JUNE FLOWER CHART:

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

Dates:

2nd –
9th –
16th –
23rd –
30th –

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

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville
PO Box 1

3-5 Wantage Avenue
Branchville, NJ 07826
Phone 973-948-3495



View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbranchville.org>

and Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com>

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

View a daily devotion at:

<http://www.d365.org>





JUNE 2024



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, NJ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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