

CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



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



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.

VOLUME 22, NO. 3

MARCH 2023

MARCH AT A GLANCE

17th - Happy St. Patrick's Day!



18th - Daisey Roe Thrift Shop opens

THRIFT SHOP
OPEN SOON

Every Sunday - 10am - In-person and Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and then available on YouTube for viewing later.

Every Saturday Starting 3/18/23 - Daisey Roe Thrift Shop open from 9am - noon



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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.

- The Acetta family with the loss of Joe Acetta
- Alicia
- Angela
- Bob
- Bob Clark recuperating
- Bonnie
- The Buyer family for the loss of Molly
- The Cabrera family
- CH
- Chris
- Dana Strickler
- Danny Kantenwein
- Dennis
- Doc P.
- Ed Ashlers
- Eileen
- Ester
- For Hap Rown to go home after 22 months in the hospital
- For those who are suffering with any kind of illness.
- Fred
- Greg A. Stetzel Dc
- Grieving for the loss of Molly Buyer, continued prayers for all who loved her
- Harry
- Irene
- Kenny
- Kim
- Kip
- Larry T. struggling to adapt after an amputation
- Larry B. with lung cancer
- Lester G.
- Lois
- Lois Pellow
- Lynn
- Jody who just had a stroke
- Mia Thompson
- Michele
- Midge
- Milt
- Molly
- Mr. Pipers
- Paul
- Paul Opilla (Mike's brother)
- Paul Sutphen now down at a rehab near his daughter's in Lawrenceville
- Phyllis Garber
- Prayers for Jeff and Kay in their retirement.
- Raymond Price
- Roger and Joyce Gibbins who are both home with Covid.
- Rowan Hunter
- Ruth Lozier fighting cancer
- Sandy Wyker and her family after Sandy's Mother passed away.
- Scott Williams
- Silvia who lost her life to Alzheimer's, continued prayers for all who loved her.
- SR
- Students, faculty, and families of MSU
- Sylvia
- The family of Alice Hickey who passed away.
- The family of Judy Home
- The family of Patricia
- The Teets Family for of a mother, Ruth Lozier
- The family of Wayne Richards Hayes after her passing - Cathy Bambrick's sister
- The Lozier family and Dietz family for loss of Ruth Lozier
- The many in Turkey and Syria after the earthquakes
- Trish



- Joy at the birth of Benjamin Ailin Hughes—first grandson of Chuck and Lisa Hughes

MISSIONS MARCHING ON!



The Souper Bowl of Caring garnered **\$435** in a one-time collection that will be donated to our 1st Quarter local mission of local soup kitchens —Manna House and Harvest House. Thank you all for donating!

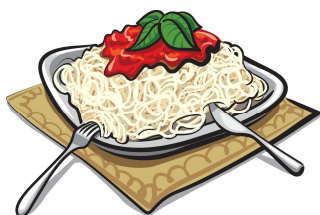
MISSION NEWS - This is the last month of our 1st Quarter Mission—Manna House in Newton and Harvest House in Sussex. Both of these soup kitchens are staffed by volunteers, serving lunch to an average of 50 people each week-day, and we have been contributing to these groups for years. They rely solely on donations and volunteers, so please consider chipping in to keep these kitchens operating. Your donations make a difference! *You might even want to volunteer to help out once a month!* Your continued support of these well-established organizations does more good than you can imagine! You can send a check made out to FPCB with “1st Quarterly Mission” in the memo line or you can use the special envelopes available in the sanctuary. Thank you for your continued support.



The **One Great Hour of Sharing** mission begins with Lent. This event lasts until Easter Sunday and the money we collect will go to help people in need around the globe as well as support the Johnsonburg Presbyterian Camp and Retreat Center. You can expect the Congregational OGHS letter to arrive in your inbox or mailbox shortly where we have shared more details regarding the donation and how to contribute. As always,

giving to a good cause is good for the soul so we hope you will take the time to support this annual Presbyterian Church USA effort!

PER CAPITA - It would greatly help us meet our budget if you would use the Per Capita envelope, or note on a check “Per Capita” to help us offset what we have to pay out of our regular budget per member each year. Please remember to Love Your Church with your Per Capita gift. The 2023 Per Capita is \$42.50 per member.



MANNA HOUSE \$5 SPAGETTI DINNER – Indoor dining or take-out, First Presbyterian Church, 54 High St., Newton (Church Street Entrance), March 14th from 5:00 to 6:30pm. Adults \$5.00, Children 5-12 \$3.00, and under 5 Free (included are spaghetti, salad, bread, and cookies or ice-cream)!



Church News

THE DAISEY ROE THRIFT SHOP - DAISEY ROE Members, Church Family, Friends and Neighbors--Daylight Savings Time and spring are just around the corner. A few Daisey Roe members and friends are volunteering at the Thrift Shop. We have a new look and are ready to accept CLEAN, REUSABLE items for the shop. Remember, NO electronics, text books or manuals. Call the office 973 948-3495 to make arrangements to bring items or once we are open you may bring items Saturday mornings 9am-11:30am. Please DO NOT leave items on breezeway. Opening day is Saturday, MARCH 18th, 9am–12pm (weather permitting). Contact Gay Plog to volunteer on Saturdays—it’s a fun way to spend the morning and meet new people.



FILEA MARKET

DAISEY ROE FLEA MARKET - Spring is just around the corner. The First Presbyterian Church of Branchville and the Daisey Roe Chain are planning their 26th Annual Spring Flea Market including the Thrift Shop on Saturday, May 20, 2023, from 9 am to 2 pm. Our group will have tables to rent outdoors for \$20.00 each (table space is limited to 25 tables). We do the advertising and provide tables for outdoors and sunshine only. Daisey Roe reserves spaces

for our church members who are interested in renting a table, so please send in your check by April 28th, 2023, to reserve your space.

Co-Chairs: Marion Alden and Beverly Keur

Checks payable to: Daisey Roe Chain, and mail to: Marion Alden, 170 Culver View Lane, Branchville NJ 07826 (or call her at) 973-948-3663.

JOIN US FOR WALK N’ TALK - 9-10:00 am: Monday thru Friday. Monday, Wednesday and Friday we walk around the circle by Selective Insurance, (the old fairgrounds). 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 – please direct to Beverly Keur.



OFFICE HOURS EXPANDED – With no pastor in the office regularly we have expanded our Church Office hours so that Administrative Assistant Alycia is available there from 9:30am until 2pm. Please call her there at 973-948-3495 if you know of anything that needs to be passed along – like if someone is in the hospital or in need of a visit. Our Deacons are on-call for visits, and the Church Office will pass along your information.



FEBURARY SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS of February 13, 2023

- The Session met with Amy Sandlin, our Committee on Ministry liaison with Presbytery. She spelled out the next steps needed in the search for an Interim Pastor. She also discussed the ethics agreement of separation that the Session must sign as well as Pastor Jeff Hatch.
- Session has Coffee Hour in March.
- We welcomed 5 new members in January/February, and baptized 6 children in late January.
- Administrative Assistant Alycia reports that we need \$10,000 in donations in order to keep our heads above water in the month of February. In the first week of February only \$2200 was received in donations. We all need to keep up with our pledges.
- The Fellowship Committee is working on a quilt project for the congregation to participate in.
- Pastor Nancy Young and Robin van Dyk will begin leading worship beginning February 19, 2023.
- There will possibly be a Good Friday service in addition to a Maundy Thursday service during Holy Week.
- Presbytery voted to approve some amendments to the Book of Order:
 - Boundary Training every 36 months for Pastors.
 - All council members (which includes Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly) to attend Boundary Training.
 - Requiring all councils to have an anti-racism policy was approved.
- The propane tank is turned off to the kitchen stove at the source outside. It can easily be turned back on when it is needed, so please notify Mike Opilla if you'll need it.



You Are Cordially Invited to Attend
The Retirement Celebration of
THE REV. DR. JEFFERSON LEE HATCH
and **KAY L. HATCH**

Saturday, March 25, 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville
In the Fellowship Hall

Dinner at 5 PM Followed by a Light & Lively Tribute!

COME JOIN US TO SAY,
"THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES"
TO JEFF AND KAY!!

Because Pastor Jeff Loves "Pot Luck,"
An Appetizer or Dessert Contribution Would be Appreciated
And BYOB if you wish

Please RSVP to Alycia in the Church Office
By March 10th - Email or Telephone
presbsec@ptd.net or 973-948-3495

Contributions to a Congregational Gift
May be Sent to FPCB
PO Box 1, Branchville NJ 07826
ATTN: Alycia MEMO: "Gift"
It Will Be a Memorable Evening of Fun and Fellowship

GET TO KNOW SOME OF OUR NEW MEMBERS

My name is Dawn Latincsics and I live in Kemah Lake, Hampton. My job is recycling coordinator for Sussex County. I have a son Tyler who is 22 and daughter Molly who is 19. Patrick (Murphy) and I married in 2021 and live at Kemah Lake where we enjoy kayaking and ice-skating. I love reading, playing piano, biking, hiking, and gardening. This church is so warm and welcoming and has a wonderful music program. We just wish we found it sooner, so we could have enjoyed Kay and Jeff longer.

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Hi! My name is Ellen Santoro. I've been married to my husband John for 36 years and we live in Sayreville, NJ. We have two daughters, Eric and Katelyn, & 2 sons-in-law, Paul and Kevin, 2 grandchildren, Lyan-na and Luca, a cat named Leo, and an umbrella cockatoo named Comet. When we retired we purchased a summer home on Culver Lake. Now we spend our time with our family and friends, babysitting our grandchildren, repairing our old summer home, gardening, playing mah-jongg, riding our bicycles and taking our boat out on the lake. I look forward to renewing my faith and making new friends at the First Presbyterian Church of Branchville.





**PAST VISION RENEWED (PVR) CAMPAIGN
AND/OR DONATION OF
EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY**



The Music & Worship Committee thanks you for supporting our PVR for church improvements or giving a lily for our Easter Service. Please remember to take your lily after the service or let Gail know if you would like it to go to a church member on the Deacons' prayer and concern list. With our thanks, Happy Easter!

You may give a gift in memory or in honor of a loved one to help grow our PVR campaign (next project is to provide a chair-lift up to the sanctuary for anyone mobile-challenged). Easter Lilies are a beautiful symbol of the Easter Season and the promise of spring. You may order your Easter Lily now for Easter Sunday, April 16th. Make checks for \$15 each, payable to "First Presbyterian Church" along with your order form and give to Gail Burckes or Alycia in the office by March 26th.

We encourage you to continue to support our PVR Campaign.

Purchase an Easter Lily @ \$15 _____

-or-

Donate to the PVR Campaign _____

In Memory of _____

-or-

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Thanks in advance for your donation.

Gail Burckes, Music & Worship Committee

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARCH

Jennifer Knaust	3/2	Frank Cardinale	3/18
Bev Simon	3/2	Bret Swanson	3/20
Dot Westpy	3/3	Stephanie Leenheer	3/23
Nancy Clink	3/8	Ellen Santoro	3/25
Baylie Rawson	3/8	Geoff Dean	3/26
Kay Hatch	3/8	David Langley	3/26
Jeff Willis	3/15	Geri Sutphen	3/27
Bev Keur	3/16	Matthew Seeger	3/30

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Cabbage Barley Soup

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup dried brown lentils, rinsed
- 1/2 cup medium pearl barley
- 3 medium carrots, chopped
- 2 celery ribs, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1 bottle (46 ounces) V8 juice
- 4 cups water
- 8 cups shredded cabbage (about 16 ounces)
- 1/2 pound sliced fresh mushrooms
- 3/4 teaspoon salt



PREPARATION

1. Place first 8 ingredients in a 5- or 6-qt. slow cooker. Add cabbage. Cook, covered, on low until lentils are tender, 6-8 hours.
2. Stir in mushrooms and salt. Cook, covered, on low until mushrooms are tender, 15-20 minutes.





March
USHERS

- 5th – Linda Osborne/Sandy Carlisle
- 12th – Debbie Gardner/Karen Opilla
- 19th – Karen Opilla/Mike Opilla
- 26th – Gay Plog/Gail Burkes

LAY READERS

- 5th – Mike Lutz
- 12th – John Newcomer
- 19th – Kathleen Katzenstein
- 26th – Mike Osborne

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3-5 Wantage Avenue
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Phone 973-948-3495



View our website at:
<http://www.fpcbranchville.org>

and Facebook at:
<http://www.facebook.com>
(ask to be friends with “firstpresbyterian branchvillenj”)

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

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



MARCH COFFEE HOUR
SESSION

MARCH FLOWER CHART:

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

Dates:

- 5th
- 12th
- 19th
- 26th

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

Flowers By Lisa 862-268-3123





MARCH 2023



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, NJ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																													
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