

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

Pastor Jeffrey Carney

Office e-mail: firstsouthamboy@optimum.net

Pastor's e-mail: fpcsapastor@optimum.net

Web Site: www.fpcsachurch.org

Facebook page: [fpcsamboy](https://www.facebook.com/fpcsamboy)

Phone : 732-721-4516 Fax: 732-721-9208

Sunday School 9:00 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Happy
New Year!

January

Bring on
the
NEW YEAR!



*Sometimes you just have to
accept the fact that things will
never go back to how they used
to be, and that this ending is
really a new beginning*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 	2 Office Closed	3	4	5	6 Epiphany of the Lord 	7 9am Spanish Worship 12 noon Missions
8 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	9 9:15 am Deacon 6pm Scouts	10	11 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	12	13	14 9am Spanish Worship
15 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	16 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed 	17 10am Session	18	19 9:30am Bagging	2	21 9am Spanish Worship 9am Food Pantry
22 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	23 6pm Scouts	24	25	26	27	28 9am Spanish Worship
29 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Annual Congregational Meeting 3pm Scouts Derby	30 6pm Scouts	31				

~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

JAN 1st Elaine L.
 8th Joan D.
 15th Ken G.
 22nd Ruth B.
 29th Jennifer B.
 FEB 5th Joe B.
 12th Elaine L.
 19th Sherry K.
 26th Dustin B.



GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE

JAN 1st Megan J, Arvid H.
 8th Gail H, Madhu S.
 15th George S, Joni T, Arvid H.
 22nd Paul H, Arvid H.
 29th George S, Elaine L.
 FEB 5th Megan J, Beth M, Arvid H.
 12th George S, Madhu S.
 19th Arvid H, Joan D, Mary P.
 26th Paul H, Gail H.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

JAN 1st No Nursery
 8th Jennifer B.
 15th Elaine L.
 22nd Mike W.
 29th Sherry K.
 FEB 5th Martha M.
 12th Faith Mc.
 19th Christine V
 26th Jessica S.



COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

JAN 1st Shirley W, Gail H.
 FEB 5th Joan D, Jessica S.

COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

JAN 1st Shirley W, Gail H, Olivia J, Elaine L.
 FEB 5th Joan D, Jessica S, Megan J, Beth M.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

JAN 1st Shirley W, Gail H, Megan J
 FEB 5th Boy Scouts

Prayers for Our Homebound

Members & Friends

Roberta Bossong

A.C.R., 485 River Ave, #30, Lakewood, NJ 08701

Virginia Porter

64 Dayton Road, Jamesburg, NJ 08831

Herb Sargeant Sr

3058 Bordentown Ave, Parlin, NJ 08859

Agnes Schaefer

Madison Center, 625 State Rt. 34,
 Matawan, NJ 07747

Lorraine Scharff

6 Bates Court, Parlin, NJ 08859

Please remember our homebound with a card and prayer.



As of Jan. 2017

PASTOR – Rev. Jeffrey H. Carney

CLERK OF SESSION - Joan Downes

TREASURER - Elaine Lopez

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT -

Geraldine Wines

SECRETARY - Shirley Weaver

ORGANIST - Kevin Shoemaker

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Arvid Holt, Millie Crosby

Stephanie McAleer, Carolyn Nappe

Peggy Holt, Lori Ryan, Madhu Solanki

YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

(Responsible for Governing our Church Affairs)

Millie Crosby Joan Downes

Gail Hawkins Arvid Holt

Elaine Lopez Dorothy Rhodes

YOUR DEACONS

*(Responsible for Assisting our Church and
 Community in Times of Need)*

Mary Dieker Stephanie McAleer

Ken Gibson George Schaefer

Megan Jarvis Shirley Weaver

Our Children's Prayer Book



Breakfast with Santa

Merry Christmas 2016

Another Christmas has been completed with great joy and happiness. Once again, our Church family and the community have joined together to make Christmas morning a wonderful time of peace and joy for many. The Angels were sent out. With great love and generosity many gifts were brought. One more beautiful than the next. Every type of toy you could think of was given. Clothing of every size from jackets to baby socks. In the last four weeks, it was none stop from picking up sorting and dropping off. What a warm joyful feeling that gives us. We certainly could not continue to have this program without the many hands that help along the way. I must give special thanks to Shirley and Mike Weaver, as well as my Granddaughters Jennifer and Sissy the mother and daughter team. Making the Angels dropping them off, picking up gifts sorting and some even delivered. Those four did it all. What a joy to watch youth in action. Thanks To all, Mary Porcello



Thank you to our Mission's and Deacon's committees who hosted this years "Breakfast with Santa" and all those who helped plan and make that event special! The children all seemed to have a good time and enjoyed their gifts. ~Shirley W.

South Amboy Glass
2087 Route 35
South Amboy, NJ 08879



Dear Phil and Staff,

What a surprise! We are a small but very spiritual church of 70 members. Of course finances are always a concern. We very much appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. All members will read of your gift in our monthly newsletter. We will mail you a copy. May God bless you and your families.

In much gratefulness,
Elaine Lopez

Can You Test God?

by Pastor Ken

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house, and test me now in this," says the LORD of Hosts, "if I will not open to you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there will not be room enough for." - Malachi 3:10

Have you ever practiced "test me now in this [tithe]"? If not, why not? If so, did you not see that God made good on His word? Of course you did!

When I was 18 years old I worked in my schools' office. It was a paying job, but the pay was not enough to make ends meet. One day I decided to take God at His word by testing this verse. When I got my paycheck I tithed before I did anything else and I had enough left over to cover all my needs. I was living the truth that God keeps the promises He makes.

Nancy was a single mother with young children. She got a small amount of money from her ex-husband every month to help feed their three children, but it wasn't nearly enough to feed them adequately. Nevertheless, Nancy decided she was going to give back to God by tithing and trusting God to provide for her and her children.

Within a very short time of tithing, Nancy landed a job with a cookbook company. Her job was to prepare meals for the photographs used in the cookbooks. Once the pictures were taken Nancy could keep the food for her family. Nancy was able to feed her family good, nutritious meals her employer provided in addition to her salary.

Isn't this a wonderful testimony of God's goodness and creativity? God is anxious and eager to show you just how much He can give you. So go ahead...test Him. He will never fail.

Prayer: God, help me to return your tithe faithfully and experience your blessings accordingly. I pray in Jesus name, Amen.

Sunday School

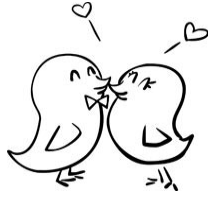
We are so proud of all the children. They did a wonderful job during the Children's Christmas Program! Thank you to all the teachers and parents for practicing with the kids and a special thanks to Pastor Jeff and Kevin for your help with the songs.

We look forward to see the kids back in class on Sunday, Jan. 8th. Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year -Shirley Weaver

January Anniversaries

Wishing a very happy anniversary to:

Peggy & Arvid Holt
January 15th



January Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

Jan. 11th Judy Scharff
Jan. 17th Paul Caruso
Jan. 20th Carla Ring
Jan. 21st Rev. Cynthia Cochran
Jan. 25th Margaret Reilly
Jan. 30th Beverly Mezger

Want to see your special date listed? Give the office your birthday and/or anniversary info.

COFFEE HOUR NOTICE



Since we are lacking new volunteers for our Coffee Hour we need your help to offset the cost. Year after year, we have the same volunteers absorbing the cost to provide a coffee hour for all of us. Some months we have as little as two volunteers financially supporting the coffee hour. We also have volunteers who provide for two months.

Therefore, to help offset the cost of our Coffee Hours, we will now have a coffee can for **Donations**. This new option will help our volunteers and will defray the cost our volunteers have to pay out of their pockets. All **Donations** collected will go toward future Coffee Hours.

In addition, Please consider volunteering for **one** coffee hour **per year**. Your help would be greatly appreciated. As always, we are thankful for everyone's help in cleaning up. As a family, let us support each other and work together.

Thank you, Your Session

The **Mission Committee** is meeting on January 7, 2017 in Room 1. All are welcome to join. We have a snack and a good time while we discuss ways to help people in need.

DEACON'S FOOD PANTRY

Saturday, Dec. 16th was cold with snow. What a day to open our Pantry. Despite this you should have seen, the circle of love, made up of church members and volunteers assembled to serve and witness to the Glory of God. We opened the doors of our food pantry and were blessed to serve sixty families. Our recipients new and old were very happy to receive all we had prepared for them. They left with Smiles and wishes for a Merry Christmas to All.

- Megan Jarvis

Our Annual Congregation Meeting

will be on January 29th at 11:30 am

All members please attend.

Attention Committees

Annual Reports are due
January 8, 2016



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

CELEBRATING

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MAIN OFFICE
73-75 Rutgers Street
Belleville, NJ 07109

RON HARVEY
Estimator/Project Manager
CELL (732) 551-8475



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@venetianccc.com

Support Our
Food Pantry
 T-shirts \$15 each

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

for more info
 Phone: 732-721-4516 or
 email: firstsouthamboy@optimum.net



FINANCIAL REPORT

November 2016

Offerings	\$	9,842
Covenant Income	+	<u>2,368</u>
Total Income	\$	12,210
Disbursements	\$	-19,677

“GIVE US EACH DAY OUR DAILY BREAD.” LUKE 11

Elaine Lopez
 Treasurer

Happy New Year



**LIGHTING THE PATH
 TO HOPE**

Core Health is dedicated to providing quality care and excellent services to those suffering from the effects of substance abuse. Our program is based on core beliefs and values that foster an educational and supportive environment to help adults take the crucial first steps toward recovery.

w: corehealthnj.com t: 732.721.1000 e: info@corehealthnj.com

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

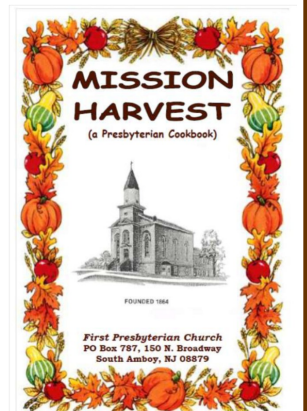
OK everyone, heads up. I am running low on recycled ink cartridges. Please remember to save them and bring them to my mail slot. Last month, thanks to you, we received \$50.00 of Staples Award coupons. With those coupons we purchased a \$65.00 carton of legal size copy paper and only paid \$10.00. **Amazing!!** ~Elaine Lopez

MISSION HARVEST COOK BOOK

\$12 Each

for more info
 Phone: 732-721-4516
 or email :

firstsouthamboy@optimum.net



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 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



This is Why He Came

Every year at this time I have the same thought: This is why Christ comes at Christmas — to give us the opportunity to receive Him in his fullness and magnificence . . . to experience His love and grace like never before, just in case we missed it the first time. Each year Christmas takes us a little deeper into the mystery of God. And each new year, the Magi beckon us to follow and lead the way to the Christ child — “Here I am . . . the Word made flesh in its’ fullness, just for you.”

Thank God that He didn’t wait until we were perfect or the world was perfect. No, we need him now just where we are, imperfect and incomplete. Recently I was reading a poem by Madeleine L’Engle, and I think it brings a timely message for us today. It is entitled, “First Coming,” and just in case that wasn’t enough, He’s coming again. Indeed, He *has* come again at Christmas.

First Coming

by Madeleine L’Engle

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till men and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time.
He came when the need was deep and great.
He dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy He came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
He came, and His Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!
from A Cry Like a Bell



May you have a Blessed New Year in our Lord. — *Pastor Jeffrey*