#### Friend, Visitor, Guest

P.O. Box 787, 150 N. Broadway South Amboy, NJ 08879

First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy

#### 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

Sunday School 9:00 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am





PUBLISHED MONTHLY February 2017 ISSUE 239





12 My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

John 15:12-13

Sim	Mon	Тпр	Wad	Thii	Fr.	Sat
				2 GROUNDHOG DAY February 2nd	ω	
				abstrator 1244330		
5 Scout Sunday 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour	6 8:30 am Deacon 6pm Scouts	7	8 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	Q	10	
9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45 am Spreading Jesus Love Luncheon	13 6pm Scouts	14 Happy Valentines Day	15 8:30am Session	16 9:30am Bagging	17	
19 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45 am Elder's Training	20 MANILIANS IM 6pm Scouts	21	22	23	24	
Transfiguration of the Lord 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/ Hymn Sing	27 6pm Scouts	28				

### ~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

FEB 5th Joe B.

12th Elaine L.

19th Sherry K.

26th Dustin B.

MAR 5th Paul H.

12th Olivia J.

19th Joan D.

26th Ruth B.

#### **GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE**

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. Lori R, George S.

MAR 5th Lori R, George S.

12th Madhu S, Joyce S.

19th Gail H, Arvid H.

26th Shirley W, Cara W.

#### **NURSERY SCHEDULE**

FEB 5th Martha M.

12th Faith Mc.

19th Christine V

26th Jessica S.

MAR 5th Jennifer B

12th Elaine L.

19th Mike W.

26th Sherry K.

#### **COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE**

FEB 5th Joan D, Jessica S.

MAR 5th Stephanie Mc, Dorothy R.

#### **COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE**

FEB 5th Joan D, Jessica S, Megan J, Beth M.

MAR 5th Stephanie Mc, Dorothy R.

Gerry W. Elaine L.

#### **COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE**

FEB 5th Boy Scouts

MAR 5th Peggy H, Gail H, George S.

# 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, Gail Hawkins

Stephanie McAleer, Carolyn Nappe

Peggy Holt, Lori Ryan, Madhu Solanki

#### **YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION**

(Responsible for Governing our Church Affairs)

Joan Downes Gail Hawkins

Arvid Holt Elaine Lopez

Dorothy Rhodes Christine Vella

#### **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



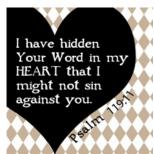
# chedding the Joy of Jesus,

The Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy would like to **Spread the Joy of Jesus' Love** and welcome our members to a

> Free Luncheon Sunday, February, 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 At 11:45 am In Fellowship Hall

This Valentine's Day let us remember that God's Love is the greatest gift we received.

~There will be no charge for this brunch, but a donation of a non-perishable food item for our pantry is always welcome. ~





The **Mission Committee** is meeting on February 11, 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**

Welcome to the New Year 2017!!! We already received a few inches of snow, but our Food Pantry day was not effected by the elements.

Early Thursday morning Elaine and Jim picked up the Penske truck and drove to Hillside for our food order. It was a long morning for them as the Food Bank is revamping its procedure and, like everything else that is new, some glitches needed to be ironed out. They arrived at the church around noon and our loyal volunteers were ready to unload a truck that was filled to the top from front to back. Kudos to Elaine and Jim for their patience and to our volunteers for their dedication to the Food Pantry.

Our Pantry day was held on January 21st. The doors were opened early and we greeted 65 families with "Happy new Year". As usual, at the start of a new year each recipient's paperwork needs to be recertified. We were blessed with 20 volunteers that morning and everything went like clockwork. Everyone went home with a abundance of staples, meat, 2 dozen eggs, cheese, fruit and bagels. The families with little ones also received diapers.

The Deacon's would like to thank all those who either made monetary or groceries donations -i.e. our Church members, Trinity Methodist Church, bagels for Broadway Bagel (Steve and Bob), various local businesses and all the volunteers who gave of themselves, their knowledge and time. You are a Blessing!!!

We hope to see all of you at our Luncheon after service on Sunday, February 12th.

Your Board of Deacon's

Mary Dieker

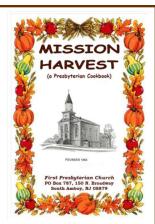


#### MISSION HARVEST COOK BOOK

**\$12** Each

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

firstsouthamboy@optimum.net



#### Why Join a Church?

People say, "I'm Christian, and live my life based on Christian values. What is the benefit of joining a church?" A valid question, and easy to answer.

A church is a community, one with values and beliefs like yours. Joining a church will help you better understand and grow your faith, and provide a more direct path to serve God and others in your community.

Church becomes a spiritual home for your faith. A church:

- Helps you meet new people
- Helps you discover yourself
- Helps you grow as a Christian
- Provides a place for you to "practice" your faith
- Helps you find meaning and guidance in the world
- Helps you experience God's love

When people gather in a church setting, they work together as a community to learn and live God's word.

# NATIONAL DO NOT CALL REGISTRY donotcall.gov, 888-382-1222 For reporting unsolicited sales calls. Start by putting your phone number on this registry.

Go to aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork to learn more about identity theft and avoiding scams.

## A Prayer for America

Father in Heaven,
We, the people, in the
land of the free and
the home of the brave,
desperately need You.
Oh that we would leave our ways
of seeking to be blessed
and instead seek to bless others.
We beg for Your guidance and wisdom
for our leaders.
We ask You to protect our land
from enemies, both within and without.
And we praise you for the freedom

we have through the blood of Your Son.

May Your plan be the desire of our nation.

Dear St. Valentine, Help us learn to love unselfishly and to find great joy in giving. Enable all true lovers to bring out the best in each other.

#### Not a Member?

Fill out one of our forms, located in the pews with the prayer cards and hand it in to the usher.

Pastor will be having a New Members Class Soon!

First Presbyterian Church PO Box 787 150 N. Broadway South Amboy, NJ 08879



rachelwojo.com

"Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my father in Heaven." Matthew 10:32

	I am interested in joining the Church as a member	
Name		
Address		

Email \_\_\_\_\_



We are collecting calendars, note pads, all occasion cards, and stationary for the Veterans Home in Menlo Park. - Dorothy Rapp

# You Don't Need to Write so Many Checks

For our members to save their checks and time please note only one check is necessary. Please make one check in the full amount for all donations being given and just mark each envelope with your donation for that envelope. The treasure will then make sure to distribute your offering according to what the envelopes say.

#### Example:

I want to donate \$50 in my offing envelope, \$20 to Deacons, & \$20 to Missions.

I will write out and put in the offering plate my **three envelopes** as usual with the amounts donated written on them. However, will make out **one check** for \$90 and put it in one of the envelopes the others will be left empty.

#### COFFEE HOUR

We are truly blessed by all of the donations that we have been receiving from our congregation towards the coffee hour. Thank you all for your generosity. Please keep it up throughout this year. Also, thank you to all of the volunteers who set up, clean up and bring in all of the food for us to enjoy. This time of fellowship together would not be possible with out all of you! Thank you, Your Session

#### 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.

We bought \$22.98 worth of supplies at Staples last month and only had to pay \$2.98 out of pocket thanks to you, our church family. Keep up the good work.

~Elaine Lopez

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

#### December 2016

 Offerings
 \$ 17,786

 Covenant Income
 + 2,544

 Total Income
 \$ 20,330

 Disbursements
 \$ -19,293

"HONOR THE LORD WITH YOUR WEALTH AND WITH THE FIRST FRUITS OF ALL YOUR PRODUCE; THEN YOUR BARNS WILL BE FILLED WITH PLENTY." PROVERBS 3 AMEN

> Elaine Lopez Treasurer



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@venetiancc.com

#### 

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.

# February Birthdays Wishing a very Happy Birthday to: Feb. 10 - Pastor Jeffrey Feb. 12 - Deborah Sargeant, Jr. Feb. 14 - Arvid Holt Feb. 24 - Amanda Vella Feb. 26 - Ken Gibson Want to see your special date listed? Give the office you birthday and/or anniversary info.

#### COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

NAME THEM ONE BY ONE.
COUNT YOUR
MANY BLESSINGS
SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.

# **Support Our Food Pantry**

T-shirts \$15 each

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

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







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.

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CELEBRATING 125

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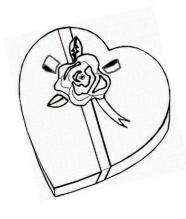
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#### A Divine Valentine

This month is Valentine's Day. Husbands and wives, remember to get that card or chocolates or flowers for that special someone! In addition, I am looking forward to our Valentine's Day luncheon here.

Valentine's Day is more than candy or cards. Valentine's Day is a good time to remember the real source of love — God's unconditional love for us. I think of it as God's Divine Valentine. All other relationships should be built upon that foundation.

Historically, Valentine's Day is named after Valentinus, an early Christian martyr in ancient Rome around the 3rd century. Christianity was illegal at that time. Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. Claudius wanted to have a big army, and go out and conquer lots of people so that Rome would grow bigger and bigger.

He expected men to volunteer and join the army, but many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and children. Some might not come home at all. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea.

He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. But Valentinus was a priest and he performed marriages secretly. One night Valentinus was caught, thrown in jail and sentenced to die. Many young people came to the jail to visit him. They threw flowers and notes up to his window.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard, and the prison guard allowed her to sit and visit with Valentinus. Things did not end happily ever after. On the day Valentinus died, February 14, he left a note for the young woman, and he signed it, "Love, from your Valentine."

They were not a couple in love in a romantic sort of way. Rather, Valentinus loved the young woman for her friendship and support as a sister in Christ. She loved him for his commitment to his faith. Legend has it that she and her family became Christians. The first Valentine was from a man who died for his love. But not his love of a woman, rather his love of Christ. His legend further grew when it was widely reported that the young girl was miraculously cured of her blindness by Valentinus. Thus, the tradition of exchanging cards and good wishes began.

Whenever we think of Valentine's Day, we should remember the source of God's great love for us. It is more than a day. It is God's grand invitation to us, and He wants you to be His Divine valentine.

Blessings, Pastor Jeffrey