

Friends, Visitors, Guests

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







Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday



March

March 2017

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
Song of Solomon 2: 11-12

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 5 1st Sunday of Lent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour 2pm Scouts Blue & Gold	6 8:30 am Deacon 6pm Scouts	7	1 Ash Wednesday 7 pm Service  ASH WEDNESDAY	2 7pm Lent Series~ Messiah Lutheran	3	4 9am Spanish Worship
12 2nd Sunday of Lent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am New Members Class Daylight Saving begins	13 6pm Scouts	14	15 8:30am Session	16 9:30am Bagging 7pm Lent Series~ 1st Pres. Sayreville	17 St. Patrick's Day 	18 9am Spanish Worship 9am Food Partry
19 3rd Sunday of Lent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:45am New Members Class	20 1st Day of Spring 6pm Scouts 	21	22	23 7pm Lent Series~ Christ Episcopal	24	25 9am Spanish Worship
26 4th Sunday of Lent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	27 6pm Scouts	28	29	30 7pm Lent Series~ 1st Pres. So. Amboy	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

MAR 5th Paul H.
12th Olivia J.
19th Joan D.
26th Ruth B.

APR 2nd Sherry K.
9th Joan D.
16th Ken G.
23rd Ruth B.
30th Joan D.



GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE

MAR 5th Lori R, George S.
12th Madhu S, Joyce S.
19th Gail H, Arvid H.
26th Shirley W, Cara W.

APR 2nd Megan j, Arvid, H
9th Beth M, Paul H.
16th Mary P, George S.
23rd Ken G, Arvid H, Gail H.
30th Paul H, Elaine L.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

MAR 5th Jennifer B
12th Elaine L.
19th Mike W.
26th Sherry K.

APR 2nd Martha M.
9th No Nursery
16th No Nursery
23rd Faith Mc.
30th Christina V.



COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

MAR 5th Stephanie Mc, Dorothy R.
APR 2nd Mary D, Megan J.

COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

MAR 5th Stephanie Mc, Dorothy R.
Gerry W. Elaine L.

APR 2nd Mary D, George S
Megan J, Joe B.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

MAR 5th Peggy H, Gail H, George S.
APR 2nd Shirley W, Stephanie Mc, Lori R.

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

We had our Ordinations and Installation of Officers on Feb. 12.

Christina Vella was Ordained and Installed as an Elder and Arvid Holt and Joan Downes were re-installed as Elders, and Ken Gibson and Stephanie McAleer were re-installed as Deacon's.



Spreading the Joy of Jesus' Love

It was an absolute pleasure and blessing to host this event on behalf of our Board of Deacons. We truly appreciate all of our church family here at First Presbyterian. Thank you all for everything you do for this church and in sharing in the Love and teaching of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I truly hope that everyone enjoyed themselves & felt **Jesus' Love!** The food was catered by Joe's Famous Pizza here in town and the cake was ordered through Costco. Special thanks to Erin and Michael for helping me set-up and decorate the hall, to my mother, Betty and Stephanie for cooking the gluten free dishes and desserts, to Mary D. for her yummy chocolate chip cookies & to George for providing all the drinks.



~Shirley Weaver



Ash Wednesday Service

will be on

Wednesday, March 1st, 2017 at 7 pm

Remember man that you are dust and into dust you shall return.

LOVE LIFE LIVE LENT TRANSFORM YOUR WORLD

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE



Thank you for reading last month's message about needing recycled ink cartridges. You brought in 25 cartridges to be recycled. Because of your response we received \$45.00 in credits. Also Joan Downes donated a \$10.00 Staple coupon she received in the mail. We are keeping our church office well supplied at a minimum cost. Keep up the good work.

~Elaine Lopez



2017 LENTEN SERIES

"24 Hours That Changed The World"

Based on a book by the same name by Adam Hamilton

Hosted by: The Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Methodist congregations of Parlin, Sayreville and South Amboy

Each session of the series will begin at 7 PM and end by 8 PM - Light Refreshments will follow

March 9th - "The Last Supper"

Messiah Lutheran Church
3091 Bordentown Avenue - Parlin, NJ

March 16th - "Garden of Gesthemene"

First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville
174 Main Street - Sayreville, NJ

March 23rd - "Condemned By the Righteous"

Christ Episcopal Church
Main at the Top of Broadway - South Amboy, NJ

March 30th - "Jesus, Pilate and Barabus"

First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy
150 North Broadway St. - South Amboy, NJ

April 6th - "The Torture and Humiliation of the King"

Trinity United Methodist Church
815 Bordentown Avenue - South Amboy, NJ

April 14th - Community Good Friday Service

First Presbyterian Church of Sayreville
174 Main Street - Sayreville, NJ

Thank you to all for the many calendars, cards, toiletries, etc. You have given me for the veterans. They will enjoy them.

Thank You! Dot Rapp

The Mission Committee's

next meeting is Sat. March 4 at noon & anyone is welcome.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BECOME A CHURCH MEMBER?

It is important to pray and read the Bible daily so that we do not lose contact with God. Failing to join in weekly worship and fellowship isolates us from our family of faith. To be faithful disciples of Christ requires constant care and attention to our connection to God and to our family of faith. Without these connections, we are in danger of dying spiritually and missing out on all that God has in store for us. **Hebrews 10** tells us: "Don't stop meeting together with other believers, which some people have gotten into the habit of doing. Instead, encourage each other."

The Upper Room February 10, 2017

One Great Hour Of Sharing

Sunday, April 16 at 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

With your gift, you...

Loose the bonds of injustice

SELF-DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE (SDOP)

Share your bread with the hungry

PRESBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM (PHP)

Bring the homeless poor into your house

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA)

—Not to give up our bread, but to share it. In Isaiah 58, God issues a call and a challenge—to love one another more deeply by sharing what we have with those in need. **One Great Hour of Sharing** is our direct response to the ways in which God has called us to share.

This Easter season, please give generously to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, through your congregation, use envelopes in the pews or online. Look for more info on in our mailroom.

Support Our Food Pantry

T-shirts \$15 each

Sizes Available:

S, M, L, XL, 2XL

for more info call

Phone: 732-721-4516



an IRISH Prayer

May God give you...

*For every storm, a rainbow,
For every tear, a smile,
For every care, a promise,
AND A BLESSING IN EACH TRIAL.
FOR EVERY PROBLEM LIFE SENDS,
A faithful friend to share,
For every sigh, a sweet song,
And an answer for each prayer.*



NEW MEMBER CLASS

March 12th & 19th after
Worship
11:45 am in Room 1



 **VENETIAN**
Care & Rehabilitation Center

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

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 offering 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.

DEACON'S FOOD PANTRY

The ground hog appeared as usual, but quickly went back into hiding. Perhaps he was playing an early April Fool's joke on everyone, as the weather has been anything but cold, snowy or dismal.

This month Bob McGuire had the honors of driving the Penske to Hillside and Elaine rode shotgun. What a lookout this cowgirl was - **they missed the turn!** Once they arrived at the Food Bank they were loaded up quickly and back at the Ranch around 11:00 a.m. The Ranch Hands were there to greet them and before you knew it the Penske was unloaded and the cupboards were filled. We have been blessed with **"The Best Hands Ever!"**

The Food Pantry was held on February 18th. We served 66 families. They came with their empty carts and left with an abundance of groceries. As usual, we always have time to chit-chat with the families and it is a happy time for everyone.

Our Pantry would not be as successful as we are without the wonderful help we receive. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers and community service workers. This month we welcomed a few new volunteers from the Old Bridge Chapter Youth Group called Young Muslim Sisters.

Thank you, Broadway Bagel (Steve and Bob) for the dozens of bagels you provide our Pantry. Thanks to all who have donated financially or by donating groceries. Once again, thanks to Penske Truck Rental and their employee (Todd) for continuing to supply us with reliable equipment. God Bless each one of you.

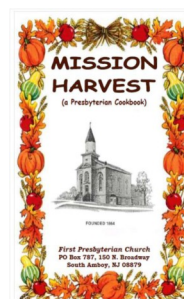
Spring is just around the corner. Daylight savings time is March 12th. Please mark your calendars to forward your clocks one (1) hour.

Happy St. Patrick's Day to All!!! Let's hope it doesn't snow or rain on our Parade.
Your Board of Deacon's ~ Mary Dieker

MISSION HARVEST COOK BOOK

\$12 Each

Phone: 732-721-4516



Happy
SPRING

March 20th

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.

March Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

Mar. 3rd Megan Jarvis

Mar. 7th Jean Griffith

Mar. 10th Patricia Van Horn

Mar. 16th Gail Hawkins

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



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

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2017

Offerings	\$	11,178
Covenant Income	+	1,898
Total Income	\$	13,076
Disbursements	\$	-16,536

"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

Though for the day: GOD MAGNIFIES MY FAITHFUL GIVING.

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer



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

CELEBRATING
125
YEARS OF TRADITION

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

For Sale

- Sony stereo (51 CD changer, double cassette deck, AM/FM radio) plus speakers and speaker stand.
 - Countertop microwave oven (white/gray).
- BEST OFFER**
Please contact Molly S.

BELLEVILLE • LIVINGSTON (973) 481-9319
Email: Ronharvey1pennroofing@gmail.com (973) 992-ROOF
Residential/Commercial 1-800-608-ROOF (7663)
FAX (973) 483-2456



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73-75 Rutgers Street
Belleville, NJ 07109

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

the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 North Broadway
South Amboy, NJ 08879



Lent: A Time for New Beginnings

It happens around this time every year: the winter seems unbearably long; the days are too short; and the temperature stays below freezing. Enough already! Spirits plummet with the temperatures and the barren landscape. When will spring ever come? A friend said they spotted a couple crocuses beginning to sprout in their yard. Since then we got nearly a foot of snow!

Beneath the snow and beyond the cover of winter, I look for subtle signs of spring. For that I have come to rely on the inner compass that governs the spiritual landscape. That's where Lent comes in. Very soon we will mark the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday service. Once again this year we will have weekly programs at our community churches. Our church will host on Thursday, March 30 at 7 PM. We will use a book and DVD by Adam Hamilton entitled "Twenty Four Hours That Changed the World." Attending these bible studies is a good way to prepare for Lent.

Over the years I have come to understand that Lent is the time — maybe the best time—for new beginnings. There is never a better time to return to God than over the forty days of Lent. It is a time for prayer, increased spiritual reflection, worship and reading of scripture. We can follow the example of our Lord, who spent forty days in the wilderness fasting and in prayer. He used this time to prepare for his ministry and the journey to Jerusalem that lay ahead. During these days, we can do the same.

Lent is after all a time for hope and new beginnings. Somewhere beneath the winter's snow, signs of spring will slowly emerge. Somewhere deep within our souls, the stirring of new life has begun. May you experience God's rich promise of new life during these days. Soon we will be able to echo the sentiment in the Song of Solomon: "See! The winter is past . . . Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come." — Song of Solomon 2:11-12



Lenten Blessings,
Pastor Jeffrey