

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)

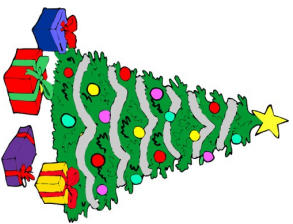
Phone : 732-721-4516 Fax: 732-721-9208

Sunday School 9:00 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am



December



December 2017

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9am Spanish Worship
3 1st Sunday of Advent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour	4 Shirley Out 6pm Scouts	5 Shirley Out	6 Shirley Out 8:30 am Session 7pm Blue Christmas	7 Remembrance Day	8	9 9am Spanish Worship
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/ Children's Program 11:45am Breakfast with Santa 3pm Private party	11 6pm Scouts	12	13 7:30pm Scouts Leaders	14 9:30am Bagging 	15	16 9am Spanish Worship 9am Food Pantry 3pm Private party
17 3rd Sunday of Advent 10:30am Worship 11:45 am Deacon's Meeting	18 6pm Scouts	19	20	21 Winter Begins	22	23 9am Spanish Worship 3pm Private Party
24 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve 10:30am Worship 7pm Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26	27	28 	29	30 9am Spanish Worship
31 10:30am Worship						

~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

DEC 3rd Sherry K.
10th Anthony V. Jr.
17th Dustin B.
24th Elaine L.
31st Ruth B.

JAN 7th Joan D.
14th Elaine L.
21st Jennifer H.
28th Jennifer B.



GREETERS & USHERS SCHEDULE

DEC 3rd Paul H, George S
10th Arvid H, Olivia J.
17th Lori R, Paul H.
24th Gail H, Elaine L, Madhu S.
31st _____

JAN 7th Arvid H, Gail H.
14th Megan J, Norma M.
21st Shirley W, Cara W
28th Madhu S, Joyce S.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

DEC 3rd Jessica S.
10th Jennifer B.
17th Elaine L.
24th _____
31st _____

JAN 7th Elaine L.
14th Mike W.
21st Sherry K
28th Martha M



COMMUNION SET-UP SCHEDULE

DEC 3rd Stephanie M, Dorothy R.
JAN 7th Christine V, Jean G.

COMMUNION SERVING SCHEDULE

DEC 3rd Stephanie M, Dorothy R.,
Elaine L, Joan D.
JAN 7th Christine V, Shirley W,
Olivia J, Beth M.

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

DEC 3rd Elaine L, Joan D, Norma M.
JAN 7th Sherry K, Betty P, Shirley W.

Prayers for Our Homebound Members & Friends

Virginia Porter at Care One Somerset Valley
1621 Rt. 22, W. Bound Brook, NJ 08805

Debbie Sargeant Sr

3058 Bordentown Ave, Parlin, NJ 08859

Agnes Schaefer at 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 Feb. 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

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Dec. 10th

Breakfast with Santa after service. Please **Register** your child by Dec. 1st. We need to make sure Santa knows who's coming. Registration forms are in the mailroom - Missions & Deacons



TIME TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Christmas Poinsettias will be \$7.50 each. Orders will be taken until December 10th.

You can also order flowers "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" a loved one for Sunday worship. Sunday worship flowers are \$25.00 for both urns. Please make all checks out to **CASH**. Thank you

Jean Greene 732-727-8690

ANGEL TREE

In the spirit of sharing the blessing the Lord has bestowed upon us, we are sponsoring an Angel Tree to share His blessings with those less fortunate. Anyone wishing to help a child for Christmas can take an angel card off the tree and buy an age appropriate gift for that age child and return the gift under the tree. Please return the angel card with the gift. Gifts will be picked up weekly. When all the angels are adopted, the tree will have all crosses on it as a reminder of The Lords "Christmas Present" to us, "His Son". Please have all gifts back by Dec. 17th. So we may get them out.



~ Shirley

Attention All Committees



All reports for the Annual Congregational Meeting on January 28, 2018, **must be given to the office by January 7, 2018**. Please have all reports typed, clearly written, or clearly printed on 8 1/2" x 11" unlined paper, on one page if possible.

~ Shirley



Deacon's Comfort Food Luncheon was on Nov. 5th

What a wonderful time of Fellowship and Christian Music from Nancy Scharff!



Missions Party for The Cochran-Carney Family

On Saturday November 11th the Missions Committee threw a party to honor Pastor Carney and his family. About 60 people attended. There was delicious food, good fellowship, and great music along with a few tears as we prepare to say goodbye to a Pastor and family we have all come to love.

Missions would like to thank Pastor Jeffrey for spending 7 wonderful years with us and shepherding us through our 150th anniversary as a church. We wish Pastor Jeffrey, Cynthia, Jackson and Joshua all the best.

- Stephanie Mc.



DEACON'S FOOD PANTRY

Autumn has arrived displaying its beauty by the changing color of the leaves on the trees. The falling leaves on the ground display their splendor and bring joy to the kids playing in them. Ushering close behind is the season of Thanksgiving, when families and friends get together to give thanks. As God's anointed, we are admonished to give thanks for everything. I am so thankful for our Food Pantry, and the dedicated volunteers who give their time and love to keep its doors open by donating food or just turning up to help. Also, for the opportunity to silently witness God's Love of our patrons by providing them with much needed food and other staples they can use for daily living. This month we were privileged to serve 60 families and to welcome 8 newcomers. To God be the Glory.

Megan Jarvis

Special Thanks to Dave Kuo and Troop 101 for volunteering this month and to Girl Scouts of Sayreville and South Amboy and to All our friends at Christ Episcopal Church for food donations.

Shirley W.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Last month our Sunday School children had fun learning about the 10 Plagues of Egypt. This month we will begin practicing for our Christmas Program. The Christmas Program will be on Dec. 10th during service. Please note there will be no Sunday School on Dec. 17, Dec. 24, or Dec. 31. Classes will resume on Jan. 7th. We hope you all have a Wonderful Christmas Holiday and a Happy New Year!

~ Shirley W.



To My Church Family, *Thank You*
Thank you for the prayers, love and beautiful cards during the time I broke my *for your Kindness* wrist. I love this church and all the special people in it. Thanks again,
Jean Greene



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

CELEBRATING
125
YEARS OF TRADITION



Debra Kurzawa
External Case Manager

275 John T O'Leary Blvd, South Amboy, NJ 08879
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Efax 732.782.0331 • dkurzawa@venetiancc.com

Upcoming Church Events



Decorating the Sanctuary
Sat. Dec. 2nd at 3 pm

Blue Christmas Service
Wed. Dec. 6th at 7 pm



Children's Program
Sun. Dec. 10th at 10:30 am

Breakfast with Santa
Sun. Dec. 10th at 11:45 am



Christmas Eve
Candle Light Service
Sun. Dec. 24th at 7 pm

Dear Pastor Jeffrey, Elaine Lopez and Parishioners of First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you for contributing to my Eagle Scout Project and allowing me to set up a donation bin in your Church. The items graciously donated have been delivered to the homeless shelter and the workers send their thanks as well. All donations are and will be used by the men who stay overnight. I could not have done this without your help and I greatly appreciate it. I believe the project accomplished its goal and will serve the community well. I cannot express how thankful I am for your donation and help in completing my Eagle Scout project, which led me to being able to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

Sincerely,



Eagle Scout Erik Kuhn

Troop 91



INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE



You did it again! Thank You! We ordered a carton of copy paper and a desk calendar from Staples. Total cost \$63.98. Thanks to your recycling we had a \$40 rewards credit. So we will only pay \$23.98. Keep up the good work.

~ Elaine Lopez



December Anniversaries

Wishing a very happy anniversary to:



*Dec. 18th
Gerry & Carla
Ring*

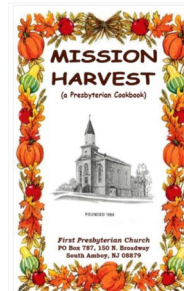
*Dec. 29th
Jeffrey & Cynthia
Carney*



MISSION HARVEST COOK BOOK

\$12 Each

Phone: 732-721-4516



We still have a lot of shirts left . Please consider buying one to support our Food Pantry

T-shirts \$15 each

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

Phone: 732-721-4516



FINANCIAL REPORT

October 2017

Offerings	\$ 19,195.00
Covenant Income	+ 3,771.90
Total Income	\$ 23,707.99
Disbursements	\$ 19,895.59

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, Whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should give what they have decided in their heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2

Corinthians 9:6-7

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer

December Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

*Dec. 8th Jean Chubway
Dec. 8th Joan Travisano
Dec. 21st Phil Van Horn
Dec. 29th Christine Vella*

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



the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 North Broadway
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Christmas Will Come



Christmas will be different for our family this year, and for many of those we love. Our family won't be together, and the Christmas tree and ornaments will be packed away, awaiting the moving truck. The house will be almost empty. We won't be making our usual holiday trip to Pittsburgh to be with family. But most of all, I will be missing you.

It would be easy to carry the Blue Christmas service all the way through Christmas day. But such a perspective would be short sighted, and would fail to honor the King of Glory. I have to change my thinking, but it is not easy. I am not sure what to expect at Christmas this year.

The shepherds did not know what to expect either. Joseph was perplexed, and Mary did not know when or where she would have her baby. Questions and uncertainties abounded. Talk of scandal could still be heard in the streets. Fears filled up the night.

What were they to do? What are we to do? First of all, Christmas is not about what we are doing, but what God is doing for us. God's great love should not be eclipsed, and moods of melancholy should be set aside. The fact is, Christmas is coming no matter where we are or what we're doing, and that is the Good News. Christmas is not up to us. The manger where Jesus was born was stripped of all comforts and essentials. But maybe that is how it should be. Maybe I have been distracted from the true meaning of Christmas in the past. Maybe there was too much shopping or my calendar was too full. So if I am tempted to see an empty manger this year, that is on me. The proclamation of the angels should set anyone straight.

Like Mary, I have a lot to ponder in my heart this year. Christmas will be different, but Christmas is going to come, and that is the blessing, regardless of circumstance. We never know where the Christ child will be born, like a bolt of light in the night sky. It will be unexpected and maybe even unsettling, just like it was then. So let us open our hearts and pray that he might be born to us again. One thing I know for sure: my thoughts and prayers will be with you, and when we sit down at the Christmas table, I will give thanks for you and your family, and we can celebrate Christmas together, no matter where we are.

*Stay Blessed,
Pastor Jeffrey*