

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

Office e-mail: [firstsouthamboy@optimum.net](mailto:firstsouthamboy@optimum.net)

Web Site: [www.fpcsachurch.org](http://www.fpcsachurch.org)

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

Phone: 732-721-4516

Fax: 732-721-9208

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Sunday School Oct—June 9:00 am



# October

# OCTOBER 2023

And as ye would that men should do  
to you, do ye also to them likewise.

Luke 6:31

Submitted by Gerry Ring

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion 11:30am Coffee Hour	2 6pm Scouts	3	4 6pm Girl Scouts	5	6 3pm Pathway to Success	7
8 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship 11:30am Deacon	9 <b>Columbus Day</b> Office Closed	10	11 6pm Girl Scouts	12	13 3pm Pathway to Success	14
15 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	16 6pm Scouts	17 Food Delivery	18 2:30pm Session 6pm Girl Scouts	19	20 3pm Pathway to Success	21
22 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	23 6pm Scouts	24 8am Open Door Articles due	25 6pm Girl Scouts	26	27 3pm Pathway to Success	28
29 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	30 6pm Scouts	31 <b>Halloween</b>				

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## South Amboy

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CELEBRATING



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## Prayers for Our Homebound Members & Friends

**Jean Chubway,**

458 Jack Martin Blvd, Apt. 238, Brick, NJ 08724

**Barbara Ballo,**

28 First Street, Sayreville, NJ 08872

**Ervant Mansfield,**

Heritage at Clara Barton, 1015 Amboy Ave, Apt 316, Edison, NJ 08837

**Carla Ring,**

1084 Mulberry Pl, Toms River, NJ 08753

**Deborah Sargeant Sr.,**

3058 Bordentown Ave, Parlin, NJ 08859

*Please remember our homebound with a card and prayer.*

PULPIT SUPPLY - John Mottley  
 CLERK OF SESSION - Christine Vella  
 MODERATOR OF DEACONS - Elizabeth Pinella  
 TREASURER - Elaine Lopez  
 SECRETARY - Shirley Weaver  
 ORGANISTS - Phyllis Chao & Sharon Munoz  
 SEXTONS - Erin Gualdarrama & Shirley Weaver  
 MISSION CHAIR - Ruth Beselinoff  
 SUPERINTENDENT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL - Shirley Weaver

As of Feb. 2023

### OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Elder- Chris Adams      Deacon - Jill Berwick  
 Joan Downes              Molly Solanki  
 Elaine Lopez                Arvid Holt

### YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

*(Responsible for governing our church affairs)*

Ruth Beselinoff              Chris Adams  
 Mary Porcello                George Schaefer  
 Madhu Solanki

### YOUR DEACONS

*(Responsible for assisting our church and community in times of need)*

Jill Berwick                  Megan Jarvis  
 Sherry Kuo                  Elizabeth Pinella  
 Joyce Solanki                Larry Wallace

## A Mighty Fortress is Our God

German theologian Martin Luther wrote *Ein' feste Burg ist unser Gott* (*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*) in 1529. It is based on Psalm 46 and is one of over thirty hymns he penned. American minister Frederic H. Hedge translated it from German to English in 1853.

1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal. 2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God's own choosing. You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he; Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same; and he must win the battle. 3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us. The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him. That Word above all earthly powers no thanks to them abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever!

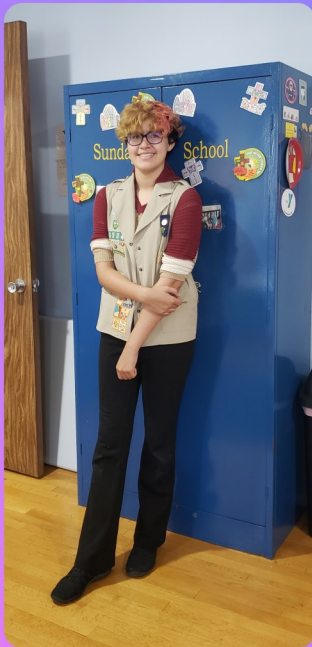
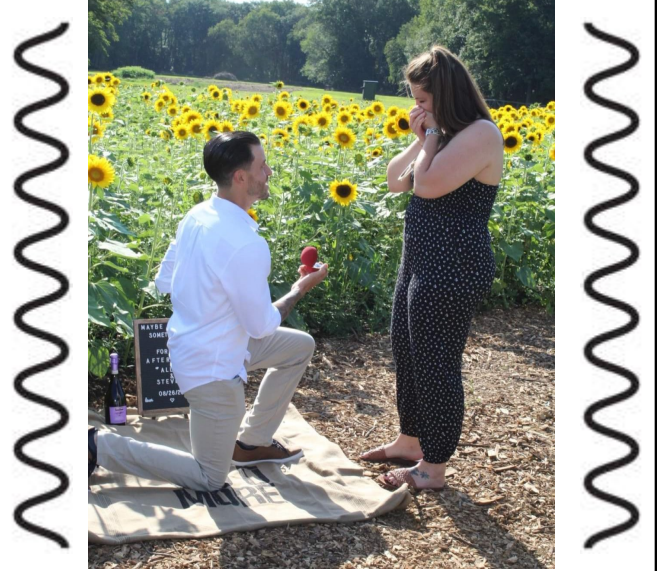
<http://www.hymntime.com/tch/htm/m/i/g/h/mightyfo.html>

<https://ca.thegospelcoalition.org/article/a-mighty-fortress/>

Submitted by Molly Solanki

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Steven Colburn and Allie Golding on their engagement on August 26th, 2023. He gave her the ring at a sunflowers farm in Manalapan. She loves sunflowers. Blessing to both from the Lord.



## Cara's Girl Scout Gold Award Creating a Children's Space



## Our New Children's Room

Cara is a senior at the East Brunswick Magnet School and a Girl Scout in Troop 80534, which meets in our church. She recently completed her Girl Scout Gold Award "Creating a Children's Space" at our church. Over the last year Cara cleared out our old choir room, cleaned it, painted it, and got all the new items and furniture to make it over into a space for the children to meet, learn and grow. The room is now child safe, friendly and welcoming. She did a beautiful job and we are so excited to start using the space for all of our children's ministries and groups. Thank you, Cara for a job well done!



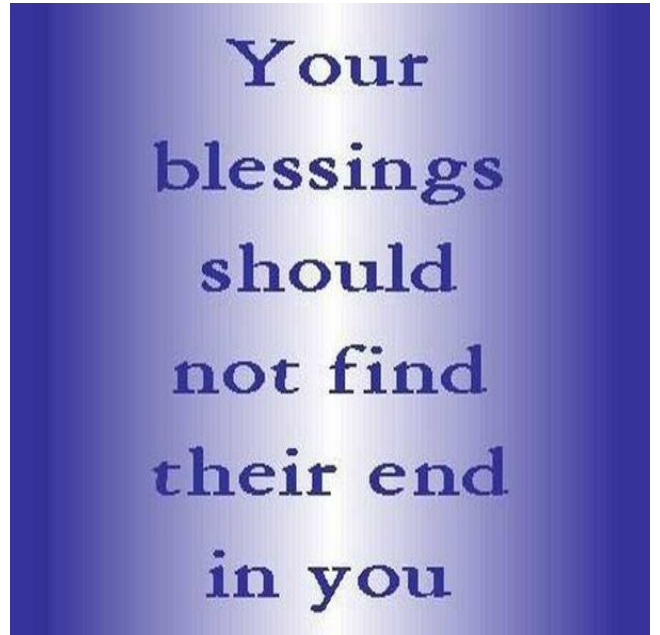
# Community Outreach Septemeber 2023



## FROM THE DESK OF THE DEACONS

In Matthew 25, there is a story about a man who before going abroad gave some money to his three servants. He returned and asked them how they managed their money. Do you remember their responses? What did he tell the first two servants? Why was he not happy with the third servant? Paul wrote to Timothy, "Do not neglect the gift you have..." (1 Timothy 4:14) Do you acknowledge and make the most of the gifts and talents God has given to you? If God gave you money, are you using it wisely? If He gave you wisdom, do you use it for the good of others? If you can preach, do you give to the advantage of your church and community? Everyone has some God given talent! Some can play a musical instrument and some can dance! Some can cook well and some can clean well! When our Master comes back and asks us, "What did you do with the gifts I gave you?" Will He be happy with our answers? Shall we get a pat on our back and hear, "Well done, good servant!"?

Joyce Solanki



### A Prayer for Those Who Live Alone

I live alone, dear Lord, Stay by my side.  
In all my daily needs, Be thou my guide.  
Grant me good health, For that indeed, I  
pray.

To carry on my work, From day to day.  
Keep pure my mind, My thoughts, my very  
deeds.

Let me be kind, unselfish, In my neigh-  
bor's mind.

Spare me from fire, from flood, Malicious  
tongues,

From thieves, from fear, And evil ones.

In sickness or an accident befall,  
Then humbly, Lord, I pray. Hear thou my  
call.

And when I'm feeling low, Or in despair,  
Lift up my heart And help me in my pray-  
er.

I live alone, dear Lord, Yet have no fear,  
Because I feel Your presence Ever near.  
Amen.

"For He Himself said – I will never leave  
you, nor will I ever forsake you". Hebrews  
13:5 Submitted by Gerry Ring

### ~Quotes~

"Civilization is a  
method of living, an  
attitude of equal respect  
for all men."

- Jane Addams

"Self-esteem comes  
from what you think of  
you, not what other  
people think of you."

- Gloria Gaynor

"When you start a new  
trail equipped with  
courage, strength and  
conviction, the only  
thing that can stop you  
is you."

- Ruby Bridges

"Let us not take  
ourselves too seriously.  
None of us has a  
monopoly on wisdom."

- Queen Elizabeth II

Submitted by G. Ring

### Reformation Day

**Reformation Day** (October 31) is considered the start of the Protestant Reformation. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses on the door of Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. The Protestant Reformation emphasized salvation by grace alone (*Gal 2:21*) through faith alone in Christ alone. The movement was also a protest against corrupt practices by the Roman Catholic Church, whose leaders engaged in unbiblical practices such as the sale of indulgences, the treasury of merit, purgatory, and salvation through good works. -From Christianity.com  
Submitted by Molly Solanki



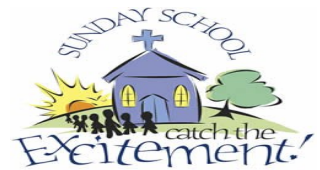
Credit: Wikimedia Commons

## Children Learn What They Live

If a child lives with criticism, He learns to condemn.  
 If a child lives with hostility, He learns to fight.  
 If a child lives with ridicule, He learns to be shy.  
 If a child lives with shame, He learns to be guilty.  
 If a child lives with tolerance, He learns to be patient.  
 If a child lives with encouragement, He learns confidence.  
 If a child lives with praise, He learns to appreciate.  
 If a child lives with fairness, He learns justice.  
 If a child lives with security, He learns to have faith.  
 If a child lives with approval, He learns to like himself.  
 If a child lives with acceptances & friendship, He learns to find love in the world.

Submitted by Gerry Ring

**SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 BEGINS  
 OCTOBER 1, 2023  
 9 AM - 10 AM**



It's that time of year again when our children will be returning to Sunday School. Ages are from 4 yrs old up to 8th grade. Registration for children will start on Oct. 1st & every Sunday thereafter. We welcome all children. If you know of anyone who is looking for a Christian Sunday School, please tell them about us. ~  
 Miss Shirley & Miss Judy

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**August 2023**

Offerings	\$ 4,920
Covenant Income	1,995
God's Pocket	1,856
<u>Designated income</u>	<u>+ 272</u>
Total Income	\$9,043

Disbursements \$ -14,498

**DEAR GOD, TEACH US TO RECOGNIZE  
 THAT ALL WE HAVE COMES FROM YOU.  
 HELP US TO GIVE BACK TO YOU AND TO  
 OTHERS FROM HEARTS OVERFLOWING  
 WITH GRATITUDE. AMEN**

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer

## INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

THANK YOU to those who did answer my plea to replenish our supply of used ink cartridges. You supplied 20 last month. I traded them in for \$40.00 worth of Rewards. Currently, I have six left over so again I'm asking for 16 or more cartridges to enable us to receive \$40.00 more in Rewards. Come on bring in your used ink cartridges so we can benefit from this wonderful program. Let's keep this wonderful program going. Elaine Lopez

## Sunday Worship Flowers

I have many openings for Sunday Worship flowers in **October** and **November**. They are \$25.00 for two urns. 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 payable to "Cash". To place an order or if you have any questions, please contact me. - Jean Greene

## October Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:



*Oct. 2 Ashley Mottley*

*Oct. 8 Mary Dieker*

*Oct. 23 Barbara "Bobbie" Ballo*

*Oct. 29 Rev. Suzanne Schafer-Coates*

## October Anniversaries

Wishing a very happy anniversary to:

*Oct. 13 Anna & Jim Lauro*

## PAVERS

It's that time of year again! We are selling engraved pavers for our "Memorial Paver Garden" out front.



Want one? Complete a form and hand it in with your payment. Forms are available on our website and in the mailroom at the church. For more information, contact Shirley in the church office.

# the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
.150 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879



## Discipleship & Fellowship

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“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” 1 John 1:7

Things have been happening at our church! We just concluded a series of outreaches on the front lawn of our church and each one was better than the last! We grilled dozens of hot dogs, served tons of snacks, handed out tons of free materials from the church, and even a handful of bibles. We also had the privilege to fill the heart of Broadway with worship music and present the gospel. Between that and the efforts of the deacons who shined our light at the Arts-festival, our church has really been a light to our community!

This is our calling as Christians to fulfill the great commission. We desire to reach the world with the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ. And as Romans 10:14 tells us, “How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?” Someone has to go and tell the world this good news, and we are grateful to be a church that echoed the words of Isaiah when he said, “Here I am. Send me!” (Isaiah 6:8).

In Matthew 28, Jesus has not asked us to make “converts” of all the nations, but disciples. These are committed believers who will follow Jesus where he sends us. The wonderful part of these types of events is how it gives us opportunities to serve and use our gifts for the glory of God. These outreaches are not the results of one man, but the body of Christ here in South Amboy working together to the glory of God and the joy of His people. It’s been a joy to watch people in our church discover their gifting and the unique ways they can bless and help in our desire to reach South Amboy with the good news of Jesus Christ.

One thing that brought great joy to my heart was seeing a committed group of our members at nearly every one of our outreaches. These events weren’t just for others, they were for us too. It was great to enjoy a simple meal together, worship together, and just be in company with other believers. This is called “fellowship” and is an essential part of the Christian life. It brings me joy to see that there is a hunger for more fellowship and worship events at our church.

As we begin planning for the holidays of Thanksgiving & Christmas, in addition to our traditional worship and fellowship events, I am praying about how we can do more things like this. Especially as the weather gets “less favorable” toward outdoor events. It is comforting to know that the God we serve already has the answer to those prayers, and I cannot wait to see how he answers!

*Pastor John Mottley*