

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

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 10:30am

Sunday School Oct—June 9:00am

God is Love  
1 John 4:16

# February

# February 2024

*But God demonstrates his own  
love for us in this: While we  
were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Communion Scout Sunday	5 6pm Scouts	6	7 6pm Girl Scouts	8	9 3pm Pathway to Success	10 1pm Private use of Sanctuary
11 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	12 6pm Scouts	13	14 <b>Valentine's Day</b> 6pm Girl Scouts	15	16 3pm Pathway to Success	17
18 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship/Ordination and Installation of Officers 11:30am Warm Hearts, Warm Home Luncheon	19 <b>Presidents Day</b> 6pm Scouts	20 Food Delivery	21 6pm Girl Scouts	22	23 3pm Pathway to Success	24
25 9am Sunday School 10:30am Worship	26 6pm Scouts	27 8am Open Door Articles due	28 6pm Girl Scouts	29		

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## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

- Asset Management
- Estate Planning Strategies



201-290-1941

**Armando Patino**  
Financial Advisor  
Prudential Advisors  
armando.patino@prudential.com  
1 Tower Center Blvd, East Brunswick, NJ 08816



732-645-4619

**Jeremy Gloth**  
Financial Advisor  
Prudential Advisors  
jeremy.gloth@prudential.com  
1 Tower Center Blvd, East Brunswick, NJ 08816

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## South Amboy

100 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879  
(732) 721-0187

www.amboybank.com

CELEBRATING



VERITAS  
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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.*

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

Chris Adams	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



## Board of Deacons

### FROM THE DESK OF THE DEACONS

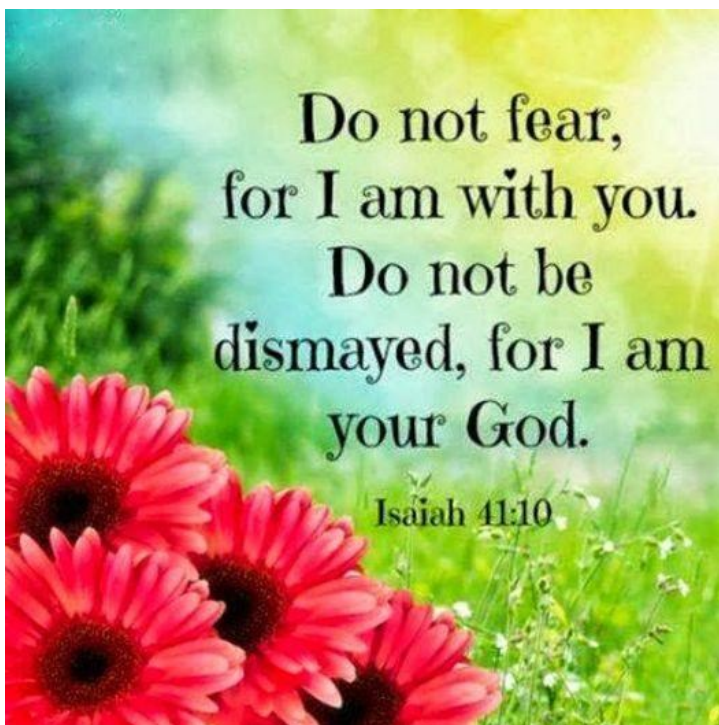
Almost all new beginnings create a little fear in our hearts. Is it a new school or a new job? A new marriage, a new house or a new business? We wonder...what will happen? How will we be able to cope during this venture? But we have to go on.

Moses had to start his mission. He was also worried about his capability. He wondered how he would manage this overwhelming task, but God had given him the encouragement--the proof that his God was an almighty God.

Do you remember the staff that Moses was carrying in his hand turned into a snake--a symbol of one of the Egyptian gods! He had control over the Egyptian god! Moses was carrying him in his hand! The real God almighty was in his favor. What more could he want? He took up the mission and went on. Friends, in the new year we all have the same Almighty God by our side.

"FEAR NOT FOR I AM WITH THEE" is His promise to us today, too! Let's all confidently move on in 2024 with this knowledge. Wishing all church members and friends a very happy and blessed new year.

~ Joyce Solanki



## FORGIVE

Because it's easier than math. Math is hard.

## Christmas Tree Program

Thank you so much for helping with our Angel Tree. Each year our church reaches out to the community at large. We often do not know the number of families in our own community that may be in dire need. As always, we start with our "Angel Tree" from which our congregation takes an angel and returns a gift. Our community has increased in families in the last year. We have given over 1500 gifts this year. Only by His hand was this possible. All Glory and honor is His. Yes, our Church is small in numbers, but because you and others help, we can do these programs. We thank you for your kindness.

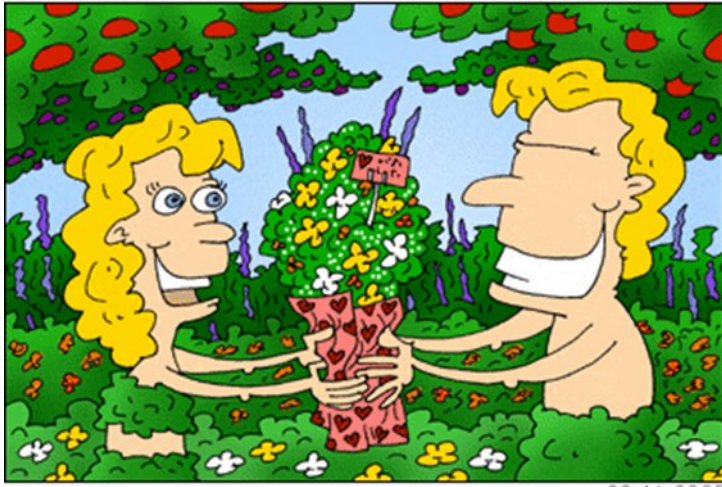
In His Service

## Sunday Worship Flowers

Flowers for Sunday Worship are \$25.00 for two urns. There are 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 payable to "Cash". To place an order or if you have any questions please contact me.

- Jean Greene



02-14-2005

OH ADAM ... I'VE ALWAYS WANTED FLOWERS

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## Bible Verses for February

"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends." *John 15:13*

"The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end..." *Lamentations 3:22*

"For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you." *Isaiah 54:10*

Submitted by Molly Solanki



Thanks to Doug Ross (See Exodus 7-12) 02-14-2003

AND ONCE AGAIN, THE PHARAOH'S CANDY HEARTS WERE HARDENED

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## Happy Leap Year 2024!

2024 is a leap year, which means we will have 29 days this February. The next leap year will be 2028.

It takes Earth about 365.25 days to orbit the Sun, but the Gregorian calendar does not take into consideration the extra quarter day. If we did not add an extra day every four years, the calendar would be off by 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 45 seconds yearly, according to the Farmer's Almanac. This means that the seasons would be off by 25 days after a century. People born on February 29 are known as "leaplings". Weather folklore says that the weather always changes on Friday in a leap year. In leap years past, Rome burned, the Titanic sank, Ben Franklin proved lighting is electricity, and gold was discovered in California.

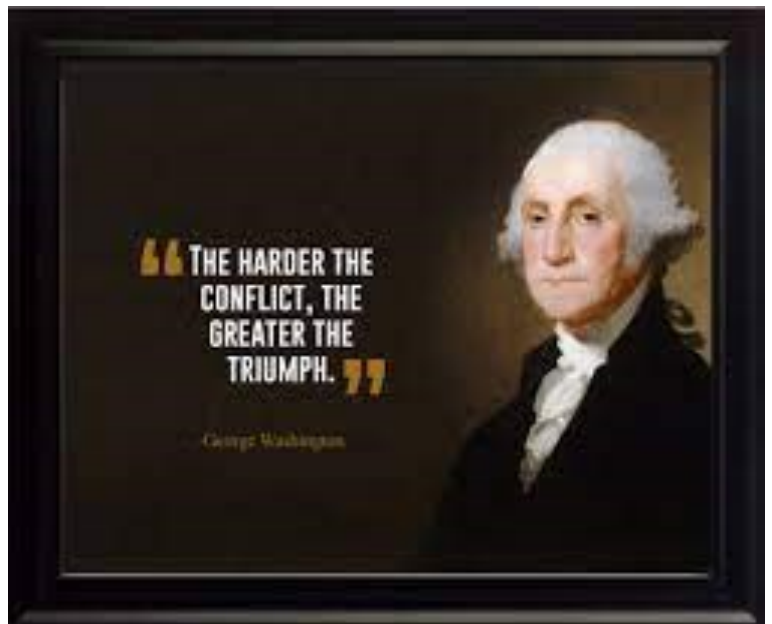
<https://www.almanac.com/when-next-leap-year>

Submitted by Molly Solanki



02-14-2000

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## The Mission Committee

Missions is looking for more volunteers to join us, and we will be planning this year's activities at the next meeting on February 3, at noon. We also invite everyone to join us at our Warm Hearts, Warm Home Valentine's Day luncheon on February 18 after service.  
~ Ruth Beselinoff



*The Missions Committee  
of the First Presbyterian Church of South Amboy  
would like to invite you  
to our Valentine's Day Luncheon*



*Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

*after service*

*In Fellowship Hall*



## Sunday School

It's good to be back studying God's word after our wonderful Christmas with our families. There is a winter chill in the air but we are warm and happy as we learn to recognize Jesus in our lives.

~ Miss Judy

## Quotes for the Month

"Love is something sent from heaven to worry the hell out of you." — Dolly Parton

"What the world really needs is more love and less paperwork." — Pearl Bailey

"Love is like an hourglass, with the heart filling up as the brain empties." — Jules Renard

"You never lose by loving. You always lose by holding back." — Barbara De Angelis

"You don't love someone because they're perfect, you love in spite of the fact that they're not." — Jodi Picoult

"February is the border between winter and spring."

— Terri Guillemets

"Though February is short, it is filled with lots of love and sweet surprises."

— Charmaine J. Forde

"In February there is everything to hope for and nothing to regret."

— Patience Strong

Submitted by Molly Solanki



Guest preacher Linwood Bagby serving as pulpit supply. Linwood is well known to our church as Missions has supported Restore Ministries in Elizabeth for many years, of which he is a founder and director.

## Quotes

"It will take guts to admit that you have behaved in a way that prevents you from being your better self, and then choose to act differently." - Sidney Poitier

"Art is the human disposition of sensible or intelligible matter for an aesthetic end." - James Joyce

"We never know the whole man, though sometimes, in quick flashes, we know the true man." - Agatha Christie

"You don't have to be a fantastic hero to do certain things — to compete. You can be just an ordinary chap, sufficiently motivated to reach challenging goals." - Sir Edmund Hillary

"Heroes always have their scars. Some you can see, some you read about later on." - George Foreman

"Action is the antidote to despair." - Joan Baez

"I'm an instant star. Just add water and stir." - David Bowie

Submitted by Gerry Ring

## FINANCIAL REPORT

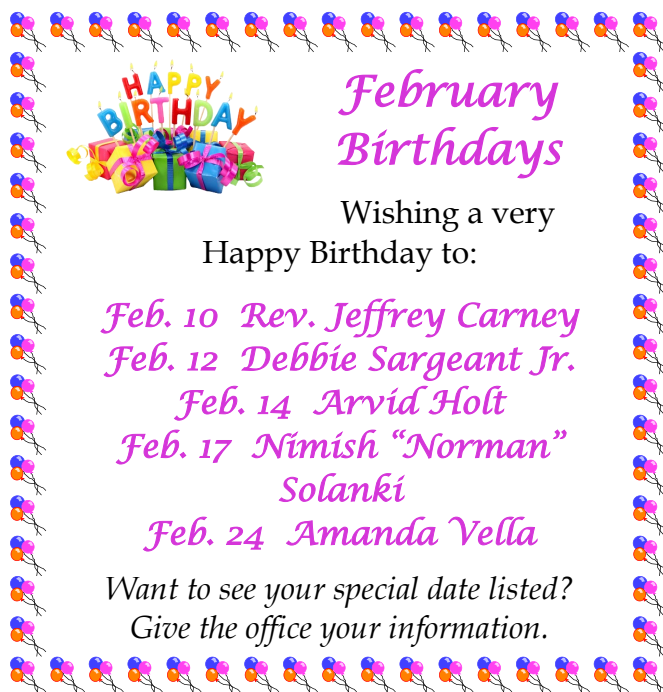
December 2023

Offerings	\$ 9,744
Covenant Income	+ 2,485
God's Pocket	+ 3,047
Designated Income	+ 928
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 16,204</b>

Disbursements \$ -14,323

**"A generous person will prosper;  
whoever refreshes others will be  
refreshed."** PROVERBS 11:25

Elaine Lopez, Treasurer



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

*February Birthdays*

Wishing a very  
Happy Birthday to:

*Feb. 10 Rev. Jeffrey Carney*  
*Feb. 12 Debbie Sargeant Jr.*  
*Feb. 14 Arvid Holt*  
*Feb. 17 Nimish "Norman"  
Solanki*  
*Feb. 24 Amanda Vella*

Want to see your special date listed?  
Give the office your information.



**A**  
**VALENTINE'S Day**  
**PRAYER**

**THINKING of YOU**  
on **VALENTINE'S DAY**  
with **LOVE** and **A**  
**SPECIAL PRAYER**  
THAT the **LORD** will  
**BLESS you ALWAYS**  
And **KEEP you** in  
**HIS CARE.**

**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

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### INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

We were blessed again by our sister church, Trinity Methodist, with 12 recycled ink cartridges. THANK YOU to those who did answer my plea to replenish our supply of used ink cartridges. Again I must ask everyone to bring in their used ink cartridges because we only have 12 and to receive our awards, we need 20 every month. Please bring in your used ink cartridges so we can benefit from this wonderful program. Last month our church office ordered \$144.06 of supplies. Thanks to you we only paid \$104.06 due to \$40.00 of Rewards. Lets keep this wonderful program going. Thank you!!!! ~Elaine Lopez

# *the* OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
150 North Broadway  
South Amboy, NJ 08879



## What makes a Church?

“So we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” Romans 12:5 ESV

“...you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:5 ESV

What makes a church a church? In this season of constant changes, we ought to know what is it that makes us who we are.

Is it the building? Our own charter predates the building by two whole years so that can't be it. Is it the minister? It better not be, because we have had dozens of ministers shepherd our church for our nearly 160 year existence.

We must remember that Jesus's church is His “called out assembly.” It is the gathering of all those who are called by His name who gather together to worship & glorify His name by using the gifts He has given us for His own glory. It's not about charters, locations, or even individual members, it's about His assembly of believers.

Because this is so, what is your unique gift God has given you? What has God given you to share in our community of believers? Is it dealing with children? There's a place for you to use your gifts in the Sunday School! Do you feel alive and blessed by helping meet the physical needs of others? You would be blessed volunteering some time in the food pantry! Is your gifting with administration, organizing, record keeping or anything of the sort? There are a dozen needs in our church you can assist in! Whether you enjoy behind the scenes work, public ministry, physical labor, or cleaning & organizing, your contributions are felt and wanted in our body.

As we get deeper into 2024, pray about where God wants you this season. Think about what contributions you can make to this body of believers, and take a step of faith and ask how it can be used for God's glory. You just might find yourself being an answer to someone's prayer around here.

*John Mottley*