

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

Web Site: 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



February

February 2026

*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 10:30am Worship/Communion Boy Scout Sunday	2 6pm Scouts	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:30am Worship 11:30 am Deacon	9 6pm Scouts	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 10:30am Worship 11:30am Annual Meeting Boy Scout Pinewood Derby	16 Presidents' Day	17 Food Delivery	18 Ash Wednesday	19	20 5pm Spaghetti Dinner	21
22 1st Sunday in Lent 10:30am Worship	23 6pm Scouts	24 8am Open Door Articles due	25	26	27	28

NEW CREATION
Home Improvements



Fully Licensed & Insured

All work Supervised By Owner

All Phases

732-486-6488



AMBOY
Bank

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

CELEBRATING
125
YEARS OF TRADITION



VERITAS
RECOVERY CENTER

540 Bordentown Ave.
South Amboy, New Jersey 08879
Phone: 732-721-1000 - Fax: 732-952-3355
www.veritasrecoverycenter.com

Substance Use Disorder and
Inpatient Withdrawal
Management

PAVERS

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. Pavers will be placed in the fall.




Prayers for Our Homebound Members & Friends

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

George Schaefer, Reformed Church Home, 1990 Rt 18 Apt. 380, Old Bridge, NJ 08857

Judy Scharff, 201 Wyckoff Rd, Apt. 339, Eatontown, NJ 07724

Please remember our homebound with a card and prayer.

CLERK OF SESSION - Christine Vella
MODERATOR OF DEACONS - Michelle Herman
TREASURER - Christine Vella
SECRETARY - Shirley Weaver
ORGANISTS - Phyllis Chao & Sharon Munoz
SEXTONS - Erin Gualdarrama & Shirley Weaver
MISSION CHAIR - Ruth Beselinoff

As of Feb. 2025

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Ruth Beselinoff	Joan Downes
Elaine Lopez	Lori Ryan
Molly Solanki	

YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION
(Responsible for governing our church affairs)

Ruth Beselinoff	Mary Porcello
Madhu Solanki	Christina Vella
Larry Wallace	

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

Michelle Herman	Betty Pinella
Lori Ryan	George Schaefer
Joyce Solanki	

Quotes for February

“While it is February one can taste the full joys of anticipation. Spring stands at the gate with her finger on the latch.” — Patience Strong

“In February, nature reminds us that even in the coldest moments, beauty can still flourish.” — Gabriela Alemán

“Why does February feel like one big Tuesday?”
— Todd Stocker

“Even though February was the shortest month of the year, sometimes it seemed like the longest.”
— J.D. Robb

“Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.” — Dr. Mae Jemison

“Love does not dominate; it cultivates.” — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

“Love recognizes no barriers. It jumps hurdles, leaps fences, penetrates walls to arrive at its destination full of hope.” — Maya Angelo

“History has shown us that courage can be contagious, and hope can take on a life of its own.” — Michelle Obama

Submitted by Molly Solanki

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

RECYCLED INK CARTRIDGES I am happy to report my monthly nagging worked. A generous Mystery Person left 22 used ink cartridges on Shirley’s desk. This thoughtful gift will give us \$44.00 in Rewards towards our next purchase. Also I picked up our Church mail at the Post Office and waiting for us was a large, bulky envelope. Another gift of 44 used ink cartridges collected and mailed to us from Suzanne Schafer Coates, North Carolina. This will add \$88.00 more of Rewards. So keep them coming. I know you have them so bring them in. Keep this wonderful program working by bringing in all your and your friends’ used ink cartridges. God is good and supplies all our needs. Thank you!!!! ~Elaine Lopez



February Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

Feb. 10 Rev. Jeffrey Carney
Feb. 12 Debbie Sargeant Jr.
Feb. 17 Nimish “Norman” Solanki
Feb. 24 Amanda Vella

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

OUR FOREVER VALENTINE

I PRAY THAT YOU,
BEING ROOTED AND ESTABLISHED IN LOVE,
MAY HAVE POWER... TO GRASP
HOW WIDE AND LONG AND HIGH AND
DEEP IS THE LOVE OF CHRIST,
AND TO KNOW THIS LOVE
THAT SURPASSES KNOWLEDGE- THAT
YOU MAY BE FILLED TO THE MEASURE
OF ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.
EPHESIANS 3:17-19



Citations from the Westminster Shorter Catechism

"Frequently Asked Questions"
from the 1600's written by Presbyterians.

Q17: What happened to man in the fall?

A: Man fell into a condition of sin and misery.

Comment from Pastor John: Why is there evil and suffering in this world? The simple answer is because we brought sin into this world, which is the cause of all suffering and misery. It was the outcome of our poor choice. Yet, to all who believe the good news of Jesus Christ, one day we will be free from all suffering and misery.

For more see: Romans 5:12, Galatians 3:10

Submitted by Pastor John Mottley



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

PRAYER FOR LIGHT IN DARK TIMES

Almighty God, in these dark times when despair seems to overshadow hope, I pray for Your light to shine brightly in my life. Help me to see beyond the immediate trials to the everlasting hope that lies in You. Illuminate my path with the light of Your love and truth, dispelling the darkness that clouds my vision. Strengthen my faith to hold fast to Your promises, knowing that no night is too long for Your dawn to break. Inspire me with the courage to continue forward, guided by the radiant beam of Your presence. May this light not only lead me but also become a guiding star for others who may walk in darkness. Through the shadows, let Your light shine within me, a constant reminder of the unfailing hope and renewal found in You. Amen.

GRACEANDPRAYERS.COM

For God
 so loved the world,
 that he gave his
 only
 begotten
 Son,
 that whosoever
 believeth
 in him should not perish,
 but have everlasting life.
John 3:16



Spaghetti Dinner

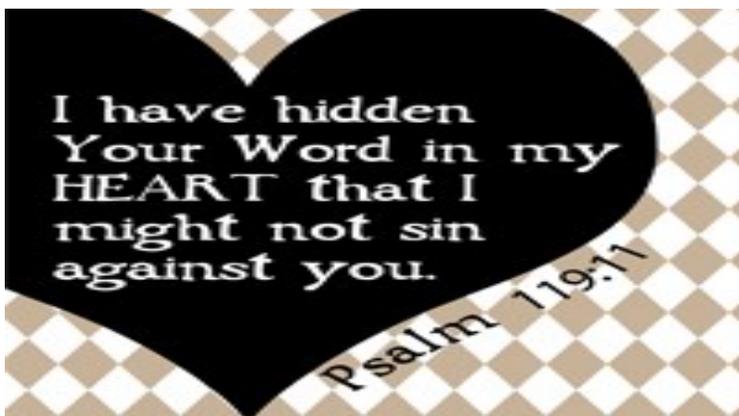


Friday, February 20th
 5pm-7pm

Eat in or take out

\$20 per ticket

at First Presbyterian Church
 150 N. Broadway
 South Amboy, NJ 08879



Bible Verses for February

“It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in humans.”

-Psalm 118:8

“Jesus looked at them and said, ‘With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.’”

-Matthew 19:26

“Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”

-Romans 13:10

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

-Romans 15:13

So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you.

-Deuteronomy 31:6

Submitted by Molly Solanki

NEW DATE for Our Annual Meeting

February 15, 2025

11:30 am (after service)

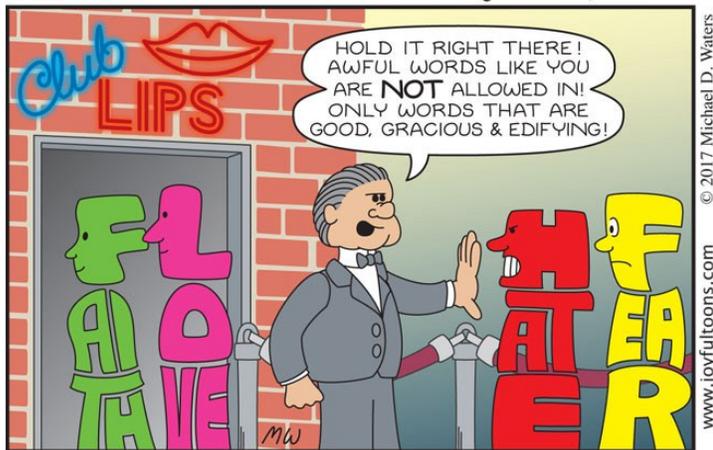
Members are expected to attend.

BEGIN EACH DAY WITH

God, Grace
and Gratitude

BOUNCER

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD;
keep watch over the door of my lips.

- PSALM 141:3 NIV

With Jesus' Help

I will do my Best!

Jesus will give you the strength you need
when you trust Him and do your best
with love,
with patience, and
with gentleness in your heart.

Then don't worry about tomorrow.
Put your complete trust in the Lord.

His grace is sufficient.

His power is always present.

His arms will hold you.

His spirit will guide you.

His strength will sustain you.

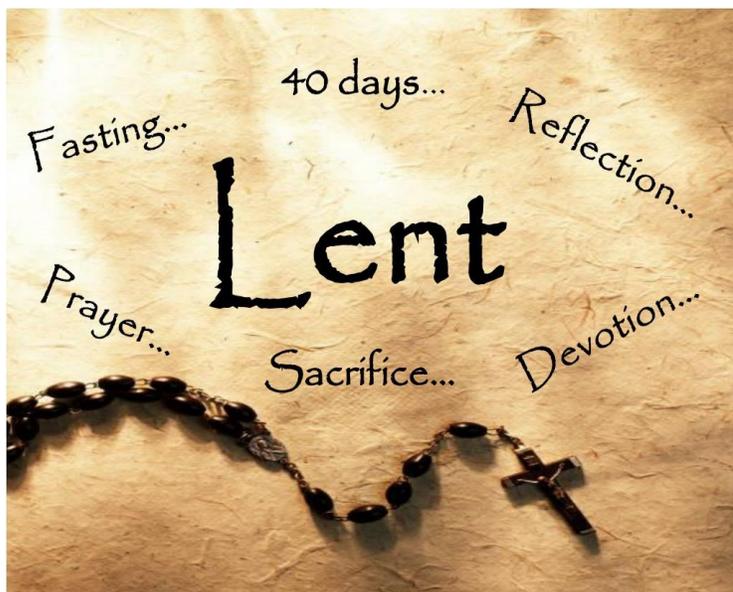
His love will surround you.

His presence will watch over you.

"Lord Jesus, with your help,

I Will Do My Best!"

Poem by Ken Pilcher, Jr. © All Rights Reserved/ www.faithclub.org

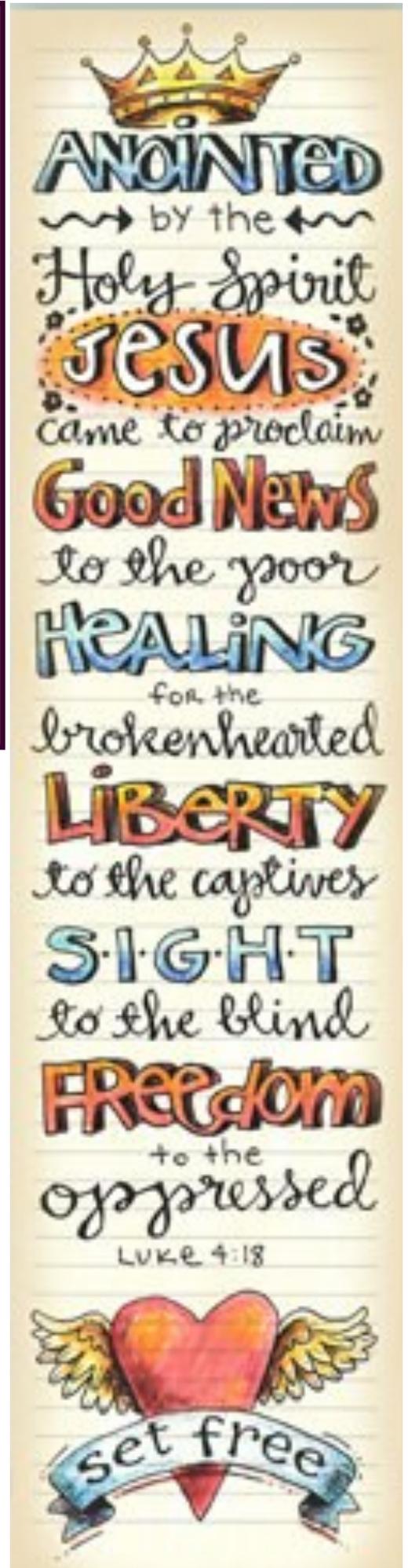


Board of Deacons

Dear Lord, in this month often associated with love, teach us to love as You love- selflessly, patiently, and without condition. Fill our hearts with love this month. Help us to be loving, patient, understanding, and forgiving in all our relationships. Give us strength to repair broken bonds, reinforce family ties, and spread kindness to those we interact. May our words and actions bring peace and joy to others, honoring You in all we do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Our next meeting will be Feb. 19th 2026.

If you need a home visit or communion, contact one of the deacons.



the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 North Broadway
South Amboy, NJ 08879



Cold Weather, Warm Hearts

When in our 160+ year history have we had to cancel service twice in a row? Perhaps there's been a time but that's new to me! Frustrating as it is since nothing replaces the joy of corporate worship, I pray you have all been safe and taking care of yourselves and loved ones in this terrible weather. If nothing else, these setbacks remind us that we can and ought to worship God whenever and wherever we are. When we see these massive storms come through that display the extremes of nature we are reminded both that our God made the weather patterns and with just a word Jesus calmed the storms. As the old hymn reminds us "thy power throughout the universe displayed. Then sings my soul, my savior God to thee, how great thou art, how great thou art". Join me in prayer for some better weather though because we have much going on that we have been looking to announce but haven't had the time. Our Annual Congregational Meeting has been rescheduled to February 15th immediately after service. If you are a member, please make every effort to attend. This is your chance to be heard and meaningfully participate in the future of the church. Presbyterian polity is "elder lead" by definition, but who chooses the elders? Who chooses who is on the nominating committee? You do! Next, we are excited to announce a Spaghetti Dinner fundraising for our church February 20th downstairs in fellowship hall. Time is TBD. This fundraiser is sponsored by Carmen Spezzi from Spezzi's Funeral Home who is donating his homemade family recipe to us so 100% of sales go directly to us. This will be a joint fundraiser with our friends at Sayreville United Methodist Church so be sure to get your tickets from us! Finally, we will have a special "Commissioning" service February 22nd at 2pm. Now that we are an EPC church, representatives from our new Presbytery will come to worship with us, pray for us, and officially commission FPCSA as the newest EPC church in their presbytery. You really don't want to miss this. Come and be part of this special moment in our churches history, meet some new friends of the church, and worship the Lord with us! Some of the people looking to come to the commissioning have been true friends of the church that have walked with us through some tough times and I cannot wait to introduce them to you. I also hear rumors about there being food at this event. I know that's a lot of announcements for a newsletter, but we haven't seen each other! Make sure to mark your calendars and I hope to see you there!

Pastor John Mottley