

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



August

August 2026

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord,
all the earth. Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his
glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds
among all peoples. Psalm 96: 1-3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:30am Worship/ Communion	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 10:30am Worship	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 10:30am Worship	17	18 Food Delivery	19	20	21	22
23 10:30am Worship	24	25 8am Open Door Articles due	26	27	28	29
30 10:30am Worship	31					

NEW CREATION

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

www.amboybank.com

CELEBRATING



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

Carla Ring, 1084 Mulberry Pl, Toms River,
NJ 08753

Deborah Sargeant Sr., 3058 Bordentown Ave,
Parlin, NJ 0885

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 March 2026

OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Madhu Solanki	Elaine Lopez
Joan Downes	Larry Wallace
Lori Ryan	

YOUR ELDERS / THE SESSION

(Responsible for governing our church affairs)

Ruth Beselinoff	Christina Vella
Larry Wallace	

YOUR DEACONS

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

Michelle Herman	Betty Pinella
Lori Ryan	



Bowl for Hunger 2026



17th Annual Bowl for Hunger

This year's Bowl for Hunger was on Monday, July 20 at the Majestic Lanes. We were excited to send in three teams of bowlers again for this wonderful cause. Thank you to everyone who came out and bowled with us this year. Especially, the Sayreville and the Amboys Girl Scout leaders. I had a lot of fun and I hope you all did too! I hope we helped raise a lot of money for the food pantries in our district!

~ Shirley W.

*Bad days are like rainy days.
They come and eventually go,
and after that - sunny days come.
Never give up
and wait for the sun to come!*

INK CARTRIDGES RECYCLE

Our Church office needs supplies. Thanks to many of you for bringing in your used ink cartridges, we have a Staples Rewards credit waiting to be used. Our order will be over \$100, and the credit will be applied. 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

August Anniversaries

Wishing a very happy anniversary to:



Aug. 3rd
Peter & Marion
Rothman

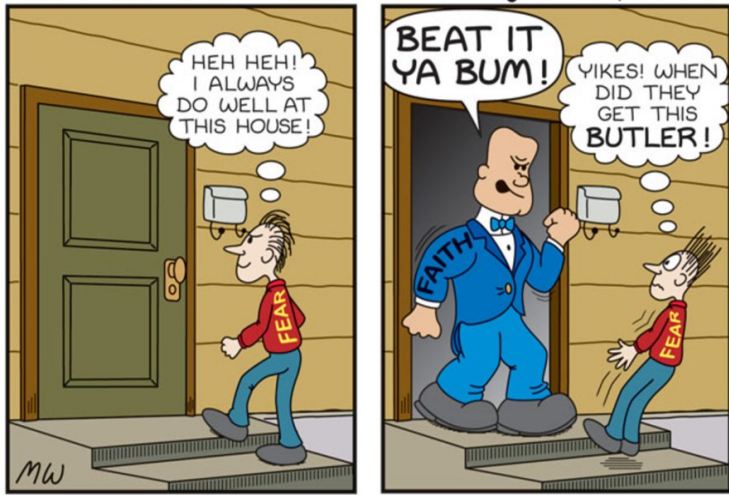
Aug. 20th
John & Ashley
Mottley



Aug. 27th
Phil & Patty
Van Horn

WHEN FEAR KNOCKS...

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
- MARK 4:40 NIV

August Bible Versus

"I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth." – Job 19:25

"I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted." – Job 42:2

"He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted." – Job 5:9

"You will be secure, because there is hope; you will look about you and take your rest in safety."
– Job 11:18

"With God are wisdom and might; He has counsel and understanding." – Job 12:13

Submitted by Molly Solanki

Community July 4th America 250 BBQ a huge success!

On Saturday July 25th, we enjoyed the rescheduled July 4th BBQ. The weather was magnificent, the food excellent and the crowd clearly was having a great time! Many thanks go to our chefs: Anthony Conrad prepared the BBQ chicken, Mark Wahler prepared the ribs, and John Dragotta was our hamburger and hot dog grill master!! All the salads and side dishes were from Palms Plaza. Thanks to God's Pocket and Missions for their donations. And, thanks to all the volunteers whose assistance made the afternoon possible.

Pastor John provided the music. He even played his Jimmy Hendrix-like version of the Star Spangled Banner on his guitar for our enjoyment. He also gave an inspiring speech about our flag, stressing it stands for freedom and peace. He spoke about sin being the basis for all evil and how we can turn to Jesus to free us from that bondage. We as Christians have dual citizenship, that being American and in the Kingdom of Christ. The main difference is the Kingdom of God will never pass away! What a comforting thought. See you at our next community BBQ. ~Ruth B.

Sunday Worship Flowers

I have many openings for Sunday Worship flowers. 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



Summertime

Summertime is all dressed out
In the latest style,
Roses make a grand debut,
Flowers growing wild.

All along a country road,
Daisies take a nod,
Seeds are planted in a field
By the hand of God.

I'm sure as I can be
That He must have planned,
Angels with their color brush
Paint the flowers grand.

Tiny, little buttercup
In a bright array,
Angels must have painted you
On a sunny day.

- Katherine Smith Matheney

Citations from the Westminster Shorter Catechism -

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

Q21: Who is the redeemer of God's chosen ones?

A: The only redeemer of God's chosen is the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, who became man. He was and continues to be God and man in two distinct natures and one person forever.

Comment from Pastor John: One savior, one person, two natures – God & Man. Jesus being the everlasting God neither faints nor grows weary (Isaiah 40), yet you find Him asleep in a fishing boat (Matthew 8:24), but there is only "one Jesus". Contemplating these thoughts will bring you into deep theological waters that have fascinated theologians throughout all the ages. **For more see:** 1 Tm 2:5-6, Jn 1:14, 10:30, Phil 2:6, Gal 4:4, Rom 9:5, Lk 1:35 ~ Pastor John

Community Vacation Bible School Week

This year's CVBS was July 13-17, hosted at St. Bernadette Lourdes Center in Parlin. The theme was *Splash Canyon, God's Promise on Life's Wild Ride*. We had a wonderful time making new friends and new memories with old ones while learning about how God keeps his promises. It was wonderful to have nine different churches in our community come together to worship the Lord! I can't wait to do it all again next year. ~Shirley W.



CVBS Week 2026

Board of Deacons

Dear Lord, creator of the universe, as we continue to pray and read our daily devotionals to revitalize our church, give us patience and understanding. Let us accept the Holy Spirit and release all hostilities and join together with your love to stimulate the growth of your church. For we are here to glorify Your name and spread Your word. In Jesus' name, Amen.

The deacons will meet again in Sept. We will be resuming home communion in the fall. If anyone has a need we can fill, please contact one of us.

~Betty Pinella



Titus 3:3-8 At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone



August Birthdays

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to:

Aug. 6 Paul Holt

Aug. 8 Steven Colburn

Aug. 25 Ruth Beselinoff

Aug. 31 Mary Gigantino

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

Dear Church Family,
On behalf of my family, I would like to thank you for all your support during my mom's illness and after her passing. Your kindness and care have meant so much to us.
With gratitude, Molly

AUGUST QUOTES

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness." — John Steinbeck

"August rain; the best of the summer gone, and the new fall not yet born. The odd uneven time." — Sylvia Plath

"This morning, the sun endures past dawn. I realize that it is August: the summer's last stand." — Sara Baume

"The crickets felt it was their duty to warn everybody that summertime cannot last for ever. Even on the most beautiful days in the whole year – the days when summer is changing into autumn – the crickets spread the rumor of sadness and change." — E.B. White, *Charlotte's Web*

"It's no use going back to yesterday because I was a different person then." — Alice In Wonderland, Lewis Carroll

"Courage is more exhilarating than fear and in the long run it is easier. We do not have to become heroes overnight. Just one step at a time, meeting each thing that comes up, seeing it is not as dreadful as it appeared, discovering we have the strength to stare it down."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

"The most important thing in life is to stop saying 'I wish' and start saying 'I will'. Consider nothing impossible then treat possibilities as probabilities."
— Charles Dickens

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Wishing is not enough; we must do." — Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe

Submitted by Molly Solanki

the OPEN DOOR

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

150 North Broadway
South Amboy, NJ 08879



Life Together

As I sit down to write this month's newsletter article, I find myself increasingly grateful for what God is doing in the life of First Presbyterian Church. While we know there is still much work ahead of us, it has been encouraging to see the Lord knitting our church family together around a renewed desire to seek Him and to serve our community. One of the highlights of July was our Fourth of July Community BBQ. After an earlier postponement because of the weather, the Lord blessed us with a beautiful afternoon, a wonderful turnout, and a sweet time of fellowship. Church members, friends, neighbors, and first-time visitors gathered around picnic tables, shared meals, laughed together, and simply enjoyed one another's company. It was a simple event, but in many ways it represented the kind of church we are praying God will continue to shape us into: a church that loves one another well, opens its doors to the community, and creates opportunities for genuine relationships to grow. We are hopeful this will become an annual tradition, and we're already planning one more community event before the summer comes to an end, so keep an eye out for more information in the weeks ahead! As many of you know, our church is also in the middle of an important season we have called Refocus. This is not simply a program or a strategic plan. It is an intentional season of seeking the Lord together. Before we can expect God to do great things through us, we must first allow Him to do His work within us. That is why we have begun setting aside intentional times of prayer during each Sunday service. It is why many of us are walking through the daily devotionals together each week. It is why we have begun our study through the book of Nehemiah. As we watch God rebuild Jerusalem through Nehemiah, we are also asking Him to rebuild and strengthen His church here in South Amboy. The messages have challenged us to honestly examine where we are, to see what God sees, and to trust Him to accomplish what only He can do. Thank you for continuing to pray, participate, and serve so faithfully. Seasons of renewal do not happen overnight, but they do happen as God's people seek Him together. I am excited to see what He has in store for our church in the months ahead.

Pastor John Mottley