



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 20, No. 3

March 2020

MARCH AT A GLANCE:

1st - Laity Sunday



7th - Hunger 3.6 @ Drew University



17th - Happy St. Patrick's Day



20th - St. Patrick's Day Dinner



21st - Daisey Roe Thrift Shop opens





Our Mission Statement:

Our mission is to gather as a church family for worship and spiritual fellowship, to nurture and educate, and to proclaim the gospel to the world.

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CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 1
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BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826



VOLUME 20 NO. 3

MARCH 2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Enough Time



One of the biggest complaints these days is the lack of time. We just don't have enough time to do all that we want to do, or even all we have to do. A New York Times article described "a swelling complaint of people all over the United States, in large cities or small, with highly demanding jobs or no job at all. Almost nobody, it seems, has enough time."

Along with what we want to do at church, there are practices or away games we take our children or grandchildren to, there are friendships to keep up, there are the demands of caring for those older than us (parents, aunts/uncles, older siblings) while also caring for those who are younger (children, grandchildren, younger siblings). There are business demands, school demands, neighborhood demands, exercise and self-care demands, and even free time demands.

Lent is upon us, however, and this is the season that particularly asks us to *slow down* or even stop some things or activities in order for us to focus on our relationship with God. It asks us to intentionally set aside something (give something up) in order to make time for God.

What we choose to set aside for these 40 days is up to each of us to decide, but we're asked to enjoy a little Sabbath time with God. "In the Sabbath," wrote one commentator, "God reminds us that our identity comes from him instead of from the things we produce or consume." It's a time "to find new energy by celebrating the God of love in our midst." Sabbath time *can* be Sunday, or it can be any time we set aside to spend with God.

So, Lent is not to be a dour and downer time, but to be a chance to renew or deepen our relationship with our Lord, and to celebrate that relationship. We don't give up something for Lent for its own sake, we do so to be more in touch with the God who gave his life for us.

This Lent let's arrange our schedules to include a bit more time in relationship with God—whether that be some time each day in prayer, reading a passage from the Bible, doing an online devotion (www.d365.org is a good one to use) or making sure we get to church on Sunday to hear his word opened up to us.

I pray you'll have enough time this Lenten season to focus on your own relationship with our loving Lord.

Your pastor,

Jefferson L. Hatch



Please offer prayers for these concerns that have been brought to our attention. They are collected each Sunday morning during the past month from the prayer concerns list used in worship.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron & Ethan • Walter Ackerly • Active military • Al • All those fighting cancer • Anthony & Samantha • John Arnedt • Audrey • Barbara • Corine Barton • Beth • Beth & Ken • Bill • Bob • Bobbie • Bobby • Brian • Buddy & Nancy • Peg Carlson • Carol • The Scott Christensen Family—his passing from cancer • Chuck • Colleen • Roger Coss • Cariss Cwome • Dan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audrey Edsal • Carole Edwards • Lorraine Feaser • John F. • Greg • Dick Gibbins • Herolyn • Family of Alan Hershey • Phyllis & Lauren Hoke • Ronnie & Rayna Howell • Rose Hyland • Irene • Jack • Jake • Jean • Jess • Jim • Jo Ann • Jodi • Joe & Robin • John • Jolene & John • Joyce • Karen • Kate & Mike • Ken • Kyle • Aunt Laurie • Lillian Kinney • Lisa & Rob • Lorraine • Mariah—new mom with cancer • MaryAnn • Mary Beth • Mikey & Riley • Morgan • Ruth Morrow • Gail M. • Pat & Dave • John Pawelczyk • People affected by the Corona Virus outbreak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Porter & Phillips Families • Rachel • Carolyn Rauscher • Family of Anna May Relph • Rich • Robin • Roger • The Rogers Family on loss of their father/husband • Sarah • Sharonlee Schaffer • Sherri • Sherry • Shirley • David Strain • Sue • Suzanne & Jerry • Those fighting cancer • Tom • Baby Vanessa fighting cancer • Family of Scott VanNess • Vincent • Wycliffe • Gail Zubl |
|---|--|--|



CELLO RECITAL will be held in our sanctuary on Sunday, March 29th at 3pm. A variety of cello solos and ensemble pieces will be presented by Aimee Nishimura's students. All are invited to attend.

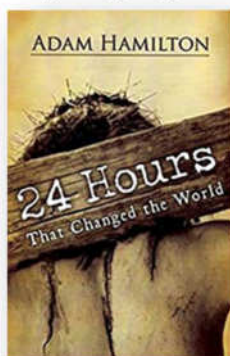


SAVE THE DATE - The First Presbyterian Church of Branchville turns 200 in 2020!! We are planning a Bicentennial celebration to be held in May. Please save the dates of Saturday, May 16th, for a dinner to be held in the Fellowship Hall and Sunday, May 17th, for a special worship service followed by a picnic and party on the church lawn. Keep a look out for Bicentennial Briefings in upcoming Church Keys and bulletins as we get closer to the event.

NEW BLUE RECYLCING CAN - There is a new blue recycling can in the Fellowship Hall. Please only put items in there if they have the recycling symbol on it. Typically bottles, plastic, glass and metal are recyclable. Please do not put garbage in it. Pitch in and do your part in keeping our Fellowship Hall clean and tidy.



THANK YOU to Mike & Linda Osborne for volunteering to put out the garbage and recycling for the church. Please pitch in to make their job easier by only putting items in the recycling can that have the recycling logo and don't overfill the garbage cans.



ADULT LENTEN STUDY

Walk with Jesus on his final day.
Sit beside him at the Last Supper.
Pray with him in Gethsemane.
Desert him.
Deny him.

This year we're going to try something a little different. We'll meet Sunday nights at 7pm for desert, and study the events immediately preceding the crucifixion for our Lenten study, but we'll do so at the homes of the participants.

Sign up in the Fellowship Hall, and each week we'll meet at the home of a different participant who will host our dessert and beverage, and then Pastor Jeff will lead our study.

We'll be using Adam Hamilton's book 24 Hours That Changed the World. We've done a couple of his other studies and they were always excellent, so sign-up and let's study this one 24 hour period in-depth for greater appreciation of Christ's sacrifice.

WHAT: Lenten Study
WHEN: Sunday nights, March 1 – April 5
WHERE: Participants' homes
SIGN-UP: Fellowship Hall

DONATE TO OUR PVR CAMPAIGN AND/OR PURCHASE EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY

The Music & Worship Committee thanks you for giving a lily for our Easter Services or supporting PVR for church improvements. Please remember to take your lily after the 2nd service or let Gail know if you would like it to go to a church member on the Deacons' prayer and concern list. With our thanks, Happy Easter!

You may give a gift in memory or in honor of a loved one to help grow our PVR campaign. Easter Lilies are a beautiful symbol of the Easter Season and the promise of spring. You may order your Easter Lily now for Easter Sunday, April 12th. Make checks for \$15 each, payable to "First Presbyterian Church" along with your order form and give to Gail Burckes or church secretary Laura by Sunday, April 5th.



Purchase an Easter Lily @ \$15 _____

-or-

Donate to the PVR Campaign _____



In Memory of _____

-or-

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone # _____

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

SAVE THE DATE – The Fellowship Committee will be holding a St. Patrick's Day Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, **March 20th**, at 6:30pm. We will have corned beef and cabbage, potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread and dessert, tea, coffee and iced tea. BYOB. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall, please pay when you sign-up. Deadline to sign up is March 10th. Cost is \$15 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 6-12 and under 6 is free.



BICENTENNIAL BRIEFINGS

The First Presbyterian Church of Branchville turns **200** this year! We will be acknowledging this Bicentennial in a variety of ways, but the biggest celebration will be held the weekend of May 16 – 17, so mark you calendar. The committee has been planning a catered dinner to be held at Fellowship Hall on that Saturday night as well as a special worship service followed by a picnic on Sunday. Keep an eye out for an Evite (an emailed invitation) in your inbox with more information and instructions for your RSVP. We are excited to commemorate this major milestone with displays, historical presentations, food and fun. Please plan on joining in the festivities. When you think about it, it's kind of a big deal!!



MISSIONS



One Great HOUR OF SHARING **QUARTERLY LOCAL MISSION** - Missions are moving along at a pretty good clip! We are in our final month for the first quarter of giving to local soup kitchens. Although we have had a number of fund raising events for Manna House and Harvest House, there are still too many local people who are not getting enough to eat on a daily basis. Please consider throwing a little extra in an envelope marked "1st Quarter Mission." We are also planning a "Noisy Offering" on the last Sunday of March in conjunction with the Sunday School kids who will be in church for their (always entertaining) children's sermon. They will be collecting any loose change you bring to worship service in metal bowls to add to the 1st quarter. We are hoping to "Make a Joyful Noise" with this acoustic activity!! Also, One Great Hour of Sharing began on Ash Wednesday and will culminate on Easter Sunday. You will be receiving a letter in the mail with details of what this Lenten season of giving means to us as Presbyterians. And in the near future, you will be hearing more on some of the other projects the Mission Committee has been working on. There's always something wonderful happening when we are able to send help to those in need!!

MANNA HOUSE SPAGHETTI DINNER - The March Manna House spaghetti dinner will be on Tuesday, March 17th, from 5:00-6:30. Come support Manna House while enjoying a delicious dinner of spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, garlic bread, dessert and a beverage. All this for only \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5-12, and free for under 5.



PLEASE SIGN UP TO HELP FIGHT HUNGER – On Saturday, March 7th the Madison Rotary Club and Foundation and other organizations will package 225,000 + meals for distribution to 40 sites to feed the hungry in NJ and NYC. We will be participating in this event again this year and have reserved 18 spots for volunteers. The morning session runs from 10:30-12:30 and we will carpool to Drew University leaving around 9 am. If you are interested, please sign up in Fellowship Hall. Donations to purchase the supplies are also needed and can be made through us or online. Search Madison Rotary Club for more info.

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

The Friendship Circle is sponsoring our annual

Fish & Chips

By Tastefully British



Wednesday, April 1, 2020

5:00-6:30 PM

Take-outs beginning at 4:30 PM

Cost:
\$15 per person

Advanced Tickets Only

To purchase tickets, call the church office at 973-948-3495

DAISEY ROE NEWS

DAISEY ROE FLEA MARKET—Spring is just around the corner. The Daisey Roe Chain is planning their 22nd Annual Spring Flea market including the Thrift Shop and Mother's Day plant sale on Saturday May 9th from 9 am to 2 pm. Our group will be renting tables indoors or outdoors for \$20.00 each. Table space is limited to 25 tables. We do the advertising and provide tables indoors and outdoors, rain or shine. Daisey Roe keeps spaces for our church members who are interested in renting a table. Please send in your check by March 16, 2020 to reserve your space.



Co-Chairwomen: Sandra Harrison, Marion Alden, Beverly Keur
 Checks payable to: Daisey Roe Chain
 and mail to:
 Sandra Harrison, P.O. Box 2597, Branchville NJ 07826. 973-948-5197.

FEBRUARY MEETING - Members met and made valentines for Homestead residents and our cherished senior members. A special thank you to Kathleen Katzenstein for purchasing crafts for this fun activity and as well as mailing and delivering the valentines.

DAISEY ROE THRIFT SHOP will be open for business on Saturday, March 21st and will be open every Saturday through November 21st. Members have been working weekly to get the thrift shop ready for the March 21st opening. Guess what, it's fun and we can use your help, call Gay or Carol to volunteer. We are accepting clean reusable items (no electronics) beginning March 2nd. You may call a Daisey Roe member or church office to make arrangements to bring items. **DO NOT JUST LEAVE ITEMS ON BREEZEWAY.** Thank you!



DAISEY ROE MEETING on Wednesday, March 11th in the Fellowship Hall. Member Appreciation Lunch (pizza and salad) at noon followed by meeting and movie. Hope you'll join us; call Carol to RSVP.

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S RETREAT

The retreat will be held on **March 21st** from 9am-4pm at the Shrine of St. Joseph, 1050 Long Hill Road, Stirling, NJ. Led by Amy Clarkson and Lorelei Oelschlager, we will journey to an exploration of spiritual practices, with plenty of Fellowship (woman-ship, learning, craft, worship and gift shop!).

(We are going back to the Shrine—not only is it a beautiful place, on the mountain top of Stirling, but the food is wonderful, as well.)

Cost for the day is \$40, covers leadership, morning snack, hot lunch and materials.

(Need a little help with the cost? E-mail NancyNwLack@verizon.net.)

Mail Registration & payment to: Nancy Lack, 15 Lincoln Ave., Florham Park, NJ 07832 (908-894-3176). Checks made out in full to Presbyterian Women - Presbytery. Registration forms may be found in the Fellowship Hall or see Laura in the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARCH

Kurt Nussberger	3/1	Bev Keur	3/16
Jennifer Knaust	3/2	Frank Cardinale	3/18
Rose Braun	3/5	Bret Swanson	3/20
Nancy Clink	3/8	Stephanie Leenheer	3/23
Kay Hatch	3/8	Geoff Dean	3/26
Baylie Rawson	3/8	David Langley	3/26
Sarah Matheis-Smith	3/10	Geri Sutphen	3/27
Greg Becker	3/13	Karen Bath	3/28
Matthew Hlavaty	3/14	Matthew Seeger	3/30

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

BEEF POTPIES WITH CHEDDAR-STOUT CRUST

INGREDIENTS

For the dough:

- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting
- 3/4 teaspoon fine salt
- 1 stick cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 3/4 cup grated Irish cheddar cheese (about 3 ounces)
- 6 to 7 tablespoons stout beer
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten

For the Filling:

- 2 1/4 pounds beef chuck roast, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1/3 cup stout beer
- 3 medium leeks, white and light green parts only, halved lengthwise and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 1 pound carrots, cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 stalks celery, cut into 1-inch pieces

Directions:

1. Make the dough: Pulse the flour and fine salt in a food processor to combine. Add the butter and cheese and pulse until the mixture looks like coarse meal with some pea-size bits of butter. Drizzle in 6 tablespoons beer and pulse to combine. Squeeze the dough between your fingers; if it does not hold its shape, pulse in up to 1 more tablespoon beer. Pat the dough into a disk, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour or overnight.

2. Meanwhile, make the filling: Preheat the oven to 325 degrees. Toss the beef, flour, 1 1/4 teaspoons kosher salt, and pepper to taste in a large bowl. Melt the butter in a Dutch oven or large ovenproof pot over medium-high heat. Add the beef and cook, stirring occasionally, until browned all over, about 7 minutes. Add the beer and 2 cups water, scraping up any browned bits from the bottom of the pot. Bring to a simmer, then cover, transfer to the oven and braise, 30 minutes. Add the leeks, carrots and celery to the pot and continue braising, 1 more hour.

3. Meanwhile, put six 10-ounce ramekins on a parchment-lined baking sheet. Roll out the dough between 2 lightly floured sheets of parchment into a 10-by-15-inch rectangle; cut into six 5-inch squares. Make a few slits in the middle of each square to let steam escape. Remove the filling from the oven and increase the temperature to 375 degrees. Season the filling with salt and pepper and divide among the ramekins (there may be some filling left over). Top each with a square of dough, pressing the edges into the ramekin. Brush with the beaten egg. Bake until the crust is crisp and golden brown, 35 to 40 minutes. Let rest about 10 minutes before serving.

Beannacht duit ar La Fhéile Phadraig
(Wishing you the blessings of St. Patrick's Day)





MARCH USHERS

1st-Karen Pawelczyk & Lisa Hughes
 8th-The Seeger Family
 15th-Becky Goldsworthy & John Newcomer
 22nd-Karen & Mike Opilla
 29th-The Decker Family

*Please see the Deacon-of-the-Month
 or sign-up in the entry
 of the Fellowship Hall to usher.*

LAY READERS

1st-Laity Sunday
 8th-Caitlin Denzer-Weiler
 15th-Nancy Swanson
 22nd-Joanne Lawson
 29th-Dan Hollis



**We're
 on the
 Web!**

View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbbranchville.org>

and Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com>
 (ask to be friends with
 "pastorjh@ptd.net")

You may e-mail
 the secretary at presbsec@ptd.net
 or the pastor at pastorjh@ptd.net

View a daily devotion at:
<http://www.d365.org>



MARCH COFFEE HOUR

Hosted by:
COFFEE BOOTH COMMITTEE

MARCH FLOWER CHART:

*If you would like to provide flowers
 for any of the dates, please see in-
 structions below:*

Open Dates:

1st
 8th
 15th
 22nd
 29th

*Then call the florist the week of your
 signup to have flowers delivered, or
 you may bring them yourself. Gail
 Burckes will contact you for your
 dedication or memorial.*

We use Lisa's Stonebrook Florist
973-948-7100

First Presbyterian Church
 of Branchville, New Jersey
 PO Box 1
 3-5 Wantage Avenue
 Branchville, NJ 07826

Phone 973-948-3495
 Fax 973-948-3495

Laura Scherr, Copy Editor



















MARCH 2020



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
1 10:00 AM Worship/Communion 7:00 PM Adult Lenten Study 	2 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 3:00 PM Music & Worship 	3 6:30 PM Pastor Jeff - COM Meeting 7:00 PM Friendship Meeting 	4 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 7:00 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts	5 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 	6	7																																																																																				
8 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 7:00 PM Adult Lenten Study	9 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 7:00 PM Session Meeting 	10 1:00 PM Presbytery @ Florham Park	11 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 7:00 PM -9:00 PM Boy Scouts	12 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 	13	14																																																																																				
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29 10:00 AM Worship 11:30 AM Youth Group- Food Collection at Walmart 7:00 PM Adult Lenten Study	30 10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open 6:30 PM Pastor Jeff - COM Meeting	31 7:00 PM Friendship Circle Meeting 	<div> <div>Feb 2020</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> </table> </div> <div> <div>Apr 2020</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
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