



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 21, No. 5

May 2021

MAY AT A GLANCE:



Flea Market

9th—Happy Mother's Day



Happy Mother's Day

15th—Daisey Roe Flea Market

23rd—Music Sunday



30th—Jeans Sunday



31st —Memorial Day (office closed)



Worship open to 52 max in Sanctuary (call the office to reserve a pew)

Every Sunday-10am Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and then available on YouTube for later viewing

Every Saturday-Daisey Roe Thrift Shop is open from 9am-12pm

CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



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.



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



VOLUME 21 NO. 5

May 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Signs, Signs, Everywhere There's Signs



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Back in my seminary days when I was training for ministry, my preaching professor, Dr. McCleod, admonished us to title our sermons so that it would get someone off of the 5th Avenue Bus. He had been the pastor of a NYC church, and he said that on a Sunday morning, he wanted passengers on the 5th Avenue bus to stop at the bus stop in front of his church, and when they read the sermon title, would want to get off the bus and come in to worship to hear what that sermon was all about.

We used to always put my sermon titles on the sign in front of the sanctuary, and I could hear Dr. McCleod's admonishment every time we posted there. Since the pandemic, though, we've put so much information up about how to connect to our worship online that there wasn't enough room for a sermon title.

And I came across what other churches have put on their signs over the years. Most aren't sermon titles, but they all have the same intent of wanting to draw folks into the building to join in worship. Here are a few:

- Free trip to heaven. Details inside!
- Try our Sundays. They're better than Friendly's.
- When down in the mouth, remember Jonah. He came out alright.
- Sign broken. Message inside this Sunday.
- If you're headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns.
- What is missing from our CH__CH?
- In the dark? Follow the Son.
- Running low on faith? Stop in for a fill-up.

And besides those in front of churches, there are signs everywhere. The trees are budding and the flowers are blooming. Grandparents are now allowed to hug their grandchildren. Some days are still chilly, but others have been quite warm. Despite wearing masks, worshipers are again singing in the pews and in the choir loft. I see lots of signs that the pandemic might *finally* be nearing its end.

Signs are all around us that despite the circumstances, life is still filled with blessings. Jesus' resurrection is proclaimed this time of year, but is also a fact that lovingly affects us every day of our lives. The signs are pointing toward God's presence with us, and just how much our God loves us.

Perhaps soon we might even be able to post sermon titles again. That would be a very positive sign.

See you in church*, *Jefferson L. Hatch*

*whether in a pew or online





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.

- Aaron
- Walter Ackerly
- All those suffering with Covid
- Alex & Danielle
- Amy and her family in Alaska
- Anthony
- Audrey
- Joanne B
- Joyce B.
- Belcher Family after Kenny passed away
- Beth & Ken
- Beth
- Betty
- Family of Lenny Block
- Bobby
- Branden
- Brittney
- Linda Buehrer
- Linda G
- Roberta Burkhart
- Rob
- Caleb, 2 year old with Covid
- Peg Carlson
- Kathy Castonguay
- Sally Cellini whose father passed away
- Beth Clark
- Chad & Loretta's 4 year old daughter Carin fighting a brain infection
- Clark Family with Covid
- Jorgen Clausen
- Melissa Cobb
- Cole
- Corine
- Crump Family
- Dave & Pat
- Debbie & Tom
- Dottie
- Ethan
- Frank
- Lorraine Feaser
- Terry Fielden
- Tom Fogge
- Gail
- Roger Gibbons
- Family of Loren Glickman
- Roy & Donna Havelin
- Hess Family
- Irene
- Jack
- Jess
- Joe
- John
- Johnny
- Jolene & John
- Sandy Kampa in hospital
- Karen P
- Kate & Mike
- Kevin Jr.
- Chick Krug with health problems
- Charles' Krugs niece facing a divorce
- Lamar
- Lawson Family on the passing of John's sister
- Amy, Dave & Josh Langley
- Laura & Nick
- Linda B.
- Linda G
- Sharon Lee
- Lisa & Rob
- Lorraine fighting cancer
- Jim Massaro with Covid
- Jennifer M.
- Michelle
- Mikey
- Sherry Moon
- Morgan
- Ruth Morrow
- Gail M.
- Nancy
- Natalie
- Joyce O
- Joe Oliver, Sr.
- Owen
- Family of Shirley Palmer
- Karen P
- Lois Price's sister Rayna who will have surgery for her broken arm
- Ray & Diane
- Riley
- Robin & Joe
- Sarah
- Sean
- Sitomer Family
- Tom Selkow
- Ralph Sell recovering from 2 strokes and a heart surgery
- Sharon Lee Shaeffer
- Charles & Joyce Simpson
- Barbara Simon
- Lamar Smith recovering from Covid
- Stevie
- Family of Dr. Donald Sugar
- Suzanne & Jerry
- Swanson, Swistack & Fenton Families after the passing of Pat Swanson
- Terry
- Karen Utter
- Vandergroef Family
- Jenniger Van Kirk
- John Veres
- Walsh Family
- Scott & Debbie Williams
- Austin Willis after surgery for his broken arm



Church News

2ND QUARTER MISSION - Our focus for April, May and June is **Communities Little Helpers**.



This group of local children up to 12 years old, led by our own Kristen Reinertsen, gathers to perform acts of community service and kindness. They visit with, make crafts for, shop for and donate to those in need. Your contributions allow them to purchase items that are necessary for their program activities while they learn the value of helping others. You can mark your cash donation pew envelope for quarterly mission or write CLH on your check.

MUSIC SUNDAY is coming soon! MUSIC SUNDAY will be May 23, 2021. We would love to have a variety of musical offerings to share with our congregation, **so please sign up soon.**

Remember, it doesn't have to be fancy – anyone who is interested in singing, dancing, playing an instrument, or doing whatever you'd like to do to share your talents with the congregation on Music Sunday is welcome and encouraged.

See or call Kay Hatch (973-459-1238) to sign up. We'll all be glad that you did.



PLEASE SIGN UP TO BE AN USHER OR REGISTRAR - Below is the link to the Usher and Registrar sign-up form. We need more help registering and seating worshipers each Sunday, so if you would like to volunteer to be an usher or registrar, please use the link below and add your name to the date you would like to help. You may also contact the Deacon of the Month (May = Wende Clausen). Thank you.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PtXTt-j8tGs0Zil6mqjJbgQPKFspneu6pjaxvsQWuPd8/edit?usp=sharing>

CARE PACKAGE THANK YOU'S:

I just wanted to take this time to thank the church for the care package that you have sent me. I really appreciate all the goodies that you sent, it made my day. —Bryce Becker

Hi church family!

Thank you so much for all of the goodies you guys sent me! It means a lot especially during this tough upcoming finals week! Hope all is well back home and everyone is staying safe and healthy! Thank you all again and miss you!

Emily Billings

Hi there, I just wanted to send a quick thank you for the care package. Just got it today and it means a lot!

-Aidan Becker

DAISEY ROE CHAIN

FLEA MARKET—The First Presbyterian Church of Branchville and the Daisey Roe Chain are planning their 23rd Annual Spring Flea Market including the thrift shop on Saturday May 15th, 2021 from 9 am to 2 pm. Our group will be renting tables outdoors for \$20.00 each. Table space is limited to 25 tables. We do the advertising and provide tables for outdoors and sunshine only. Daisey Roe keeps spaces for our church members who are interested in renting a table. Please send in your check by May 1, 2021 to reserve your space.

Co-Chairwomen: Marion Alden, Beverly Keur

Church Phone: 973-948-3495

Checks payable to: Daisey Roe Chain and mail to:

ATTN: Marion Alden at the First Presbyterian Church

P.O. Box 1, 3-5 Wantage Avenue Branchville NJ 07826



DAISEY ROE CHAIN'S SPRING FUNDRAISER – C & C Growers, 156 Hampton House Road (Rte. 206) in Newton (across from Tractor Supply) is offering the purchaser a 10% discount plus they are donating 10 % of the total purchases to Daisey Roe (through May 22nd). That money is used directly to support the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Take a hot pink flyer with you when shopping for your spring flowers and hanging baskets. Flyers can be found in carrier to the left of the front of the doors to the Fellowship Hall, or you can either call or email Laura at the church and she will mail one to you.

THE DAISEY ROE THRIFT SHOP is open every Saturday from 9am-noon. We are accepting donations. Items may be brought in on Saturday mornings from 9am-12pm or call the church office to make arrangements to drop off items.

NEXT DAISEY ROE MEETING will be held on Wednesday, June 9th for our Christmas in June Luncheon. Hope you'll join us for Nancy's "crazy " gift exchange with the mystery gift and Kathleen's trivia game and readings. More info to follow



MISSION NEWS

Congratulations Congregation!! In spite of the pandemic challenges we have faced, you have managed to contribute to our missions, helping others in need!! Our 1st Quarter Mission raised \$310 to be added to the budgeted amount of \$125 for donation to the Manna House and Harvest House soup kitchens. We collected \$190 for our Souper Bowl of Caring to be donated to the Rotary program "Hunger 3.6" Probably the most impressive giving was the \$1475 collected for One Great Hour of Sharing! Half of that goes to Presbyterian Church USA projects but we, the Mission Committee, had the pleasure of adding the other half to our budgeted mission money and selected \$1575 worth of gifts for people around the world!!

Here's how we spent *your* money... A Community Garden for an urban agriculture project in a U.S. city where fresh produce is scarce – aka a 'food desert.' In order to help supply water in 3rd world areas we donated a manual drill for digging a well, a water containment system and a community irrigation water pump. With water, crops can be grown, so we purchased starter packs of nutritional food seeds.

Supporting families, women, and children in under-developed places is also close to our hearts. We chose to 'educate a child' (x2) and invest in a teacher training program to extend the classroom to girls who have little access. The Women's Empowerment Project brings education and economic opportunity to women resulting in thriving communities. By contributing here, we help many!

Our biggest purchase was for WASH, a project that gives access to water, sanitation and hygiene. Education and supplies in this area are critical in controlling the spread of infectious disease. And our most fun purchase was another sewing machine; we can just imagine the many projects that contraption will complete to make so many people happy!

If you would like to go online and take a look at these and other gifts vetted by the Presbyterian Church USA, just click here:

<https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/gifts/all/>



WHO'S YOUR FARMER?

Looking for fresh just picked produce to serve to your family? Then, look no further. **Wykertown Farms LLC** operates a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) Program just 3 miles from the church.

What is a CSA you ask? It's a commitment between shareholders and their farmer. By entering the CSA agreement, shareholders agree that they will share in the bountiful harvest of fresh produce when the growing season is good, as well as the inherent risks of the farming operation (poor weather, drought, disease, animal impacts, early/late frost, crop failure and so on).

Wykertown Farms LLC is owned by our church member Cully Opilla. The CSA Program here is a "true" CSA - meaning we order the seeds, plant the seeds in our two greenhouses or field, take care of plants throughout the growing season, harvest produce when ready and make it available for pick up twice a week. Nothing is brought in from other farms. Our shareholders know exactly where their produce is coming from and how it is grown because they can see it.

What are we planting this year? Below is a partial list:

•Beans—variety	•Lettuce—variety	•Snap Peas
•Beets-variety	•Radishes—variety	•Kohlrabi
•Broccoli	•Spinach	•Fennel
•Cabbage	•Tomatoes—variety	•Collard Greens
•Carrots—variety	•Peppers-variety	•Celery
•Cucumbers	•Summer Squash	•Garlic
•Eggplant—purple and Asian	•Zucchini	•Onions
•Herbs	•Squashes—Variety	
•Kale	•Brussel Sprouts— green & purple	

We also have fresh eggs as an extra for \$4/dozen.

CSA PRICING:

- ◇ Full Share—\$650
- ◇ 1/2 Share —\$375

Growing season is expected to be 20 weeks, from June through October.

**WYKERTOWN FARMS CSA, CULLY OPILLA
138 WYKERTOWN ROAD
BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826**

(973) 222-8942 OR 973-875-3304

www.wykertownfarms.com



Worship Assistants

MAY

LAY READERS

2nd-Debbie Anderson
 9th-Joanne Lawson
 16th-Kathleen Katzenstein
 23rd-Nancy Swanson
 30th-Marion Alden

USHERS

2nd- John Newcomer
 9th- Pat Leenheer
 16th- Cathy Bambrick
 23rd- Buzz Alden
 30th- Judy Casey

REGISTRARS

2nd- Wende Clausen
 9th- John Newcomer
 16th- Linda Osborne
 23rd- Marion Alden
 30th-

View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbranchville.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>

MAY FLOWER CHART:

If you would like to provide flowers for any of the dates, please see instructions below:

Dates:

2nd

9th

16th

23rd

30th

Call the florist the week before 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

PO Box 1

**3-5 Wantage Avenue
 Branchville, NJ 07826**

Phone 973-948-3495

Fax 973-948-3495



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY

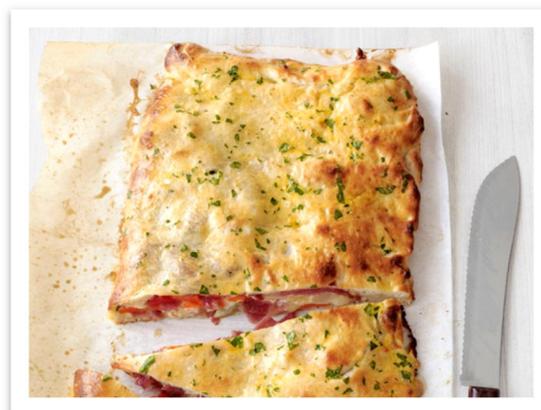
Karen Opilla	5/7	Tom McCurdy	5/13
Laura Scherr	5/7	Connie Leenheer	5/22
Cyndi Stumpf	5/7	William Loos	5/23
Gail Burckes	5/8	Lois Kinney	5/25
Aeliana Opilla	5/9	John Grau	5/28
Stacey Van Houten	5/9	Meryl Kurland	5/29
Emily Billings	5/11	Gay Plog	5/31
Debbie Guile	5/13		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

SALAMI-MOZZARELLA CALZONE

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Lg. eggs
- 1/4 C chopped fresh flat leaf parsley
- 1 tsp. grated lemon zest
- 1/4 lb. shredded mozzarella cheese
- Extra-virgin olive oil, for brushing the dough
- 1 13.8 ounce tube refrigerated pizza dough
- 1/4 lb. deli-sliced Genoa salami, cut into thin strips
- 1 1/2 cups giardiniera (pickled mixed vegetables), drained
- 1/4 lb. thinly sliced sharp provolone



DIRECTIONS:

Place a baking sheet upside down in the oven and preheat to 400 degrees. Beat the eggs, parsley and lemon zest in a small bowl. Pour half of the egg mixture into a medium bowl and stir in the mozzarella. Reserve the remaining egg mixtures for brushing on the crust.

Turn another baking sheet upside down; line with parchment paper and brush with olive oil. Unroll the dough on the parchment paper and pat into a 9-by-12-inchy rectangle. Spread the mozzarella mixture over one half of the dough, leaving an 1-inch border along the edge. Top with the salami, followed by the pickled vegetables and provolone. Fold the other half of the dough over to cover the filling. Crimp and roll the edges to seal, then pierce the top of the dough in a few places with a knife.

Slide the calzone with the parchment paper on the hot baking sheet; bake 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and brush with the remaining egg mixture, then continue to bake until the crust is golden, 5-10 minutes more. Let rest 5 minutes, then cut into slices. Enjoy!



MAY 2021



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, NJ

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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