



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



**First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey**

Volume 20, No. 7 & 8

JULY/AUGUST 2020



AT A GLANCE:

JULY



4th Happy 4th of July

5th Communion Sunday

AUGUST

2nd Communion Sunday

Every Saturday—9am-noon Daisey Roe Thrift Shop open for business on the breezeway

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

Pastor Jeff & Kay will be away on vacation from July 9th-July 30th



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
5 WANTAGE AVE.
BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826



VOLUME 20, NO. 7&8

SUMMER of 2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

LATEST UPDATE



So, what's the latest on the church re-opening? Our Reentry Team (myself, Joanne Lawson and Cathy Bambrick) got word from an online meeting with our Presbytery's Reentry Team 2 weeks ago. They have been in touch with the NJ Governor's office, and with our denomination's HQ, and they gave us the latest scoop. We're currently in Phase 2, which means a few things are different from Phase 1, which is where we were last month. But as of this writing (early July) the virus is making a comeback amongst the population, and some states are rolling back their relaxation of the rules. Restaurants were supposed to be open for in-house seating as of this week in NJ and that has been rescinded for now and the latest stats are that the virus is rising again in our county.

Based on the above information our Presbytery Reentry Team has determined that in-church gatherings *may* take place with up to 100 people (or 25% maximum capacity), but there are restrictions on how folks may interact while they do. Whether indoors or outdoors, the following restrictions must be observed:

- Everyone must wear a mask
- No hymns may be sung (congregational singing or saying is a super-spreader), so no collective readings may take place (which then would include Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Responsive Reading, the Lord's Prayer)
- No hymnals, Bibles, or bulletins may be used
- Social distancing must still take place (which restricts us to 14 locations in our sanctuary where people may sit—totaling 14-50 worshippers)
- No passing collection plates or handshaking and no Coffee Hour before or after the service
- Livestreaming of the worship should continue for those who can't attend or are not comfortable doing so
- Bathrooms are not to be used
- A plan for cleaning before and after worship should be in place, along with offering masks to any who don't have one, and a plan made for how to deal with anyone who doesn't want to go along with the restrictions
- A list of attendees should be kept in case contact tracing is needed later
- A plan must be passed by the church board (our Session) *unanimously* covering all of these considerations, and
- That plan must be submitted to the Presbytery Board of Trustees for approval.

Comparing a worship service with all of those restrictions in place to a full worship service with 10 or less without restrictions - our leadership has determined that we prefer the full service. The thought of a worship service without singing, reading aloud, responses, and corporately-said prayers sounds much less satisfying than getting the full service in our homes.

Please do, though, contact the church office (Laura) and let her know if you'd like to attend a service in person. We are allowed up to 10 without all of the above restrictions (other than social distancing) and she'd be happy to schedule you in for a Sunday that allows for that (after accounting for pastor, organist, video person and special music).

Our prayer is that a vaccine will be discovered soon that allows us to leave the restrictions behind, but in the meantime we continue to be the church of Jesus Christ as best we can, which is all God requires of us.

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.

- | | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron • Abigail • Walter Ackerly • All those fighting anxiety and depression • All first responders and essential employees • All those fighting cancer • Anthony & Samantha • Ann • Anne • John Arnedt • Audrey • Joyce B. • Barbara • Cathy Bambrick and her family on the loss of her mother • Bea • Chad, fighting a difficult pneumonia • Corine Barton—undergoing chemo • Beth • Beth & Ken • Tim Berg • Buddy • Muriel Card • Carl • Peg Carlson • Cathy, fighting cancer • Chuck • Leanne Clausen • Connie • David | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David, known as Pop-Pop • Debbie • Doug • Mr. Dubel • Carole Edwards • Ethan • Father Tez, who has Covid-19 • Lorraine Feaser • Alex Grazaino's family • Greg • High School Seniors • Roy & Donna Havelin • Phyllis & Lauren Hoke • Rich Innes • Irene • Jack • Jeanne • Jess • Jim • Joe & Robin • John • Jolene & John • Justin • Judy, dealing with back issues • Karen • Kate & Mike • Kayla • Ken • Kim • Lillian Kinney • Amy, Dave & Josh Langley • Larry, undergoing chemo for his brain tumor • Sharon Lee • Linda • Lisa & Rob • Mike, in his recovery • Mikey & Riley • Sherry Moon • Morgan • Ruth Morrow • Gail M. • Norman • Joyce O. • Kimi, Nathan and the whole Orr Family • Joyce P. • Pat & Dave | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peg & Mary • Karen Pawelczyk • Carolyn Rauscher • Grandma Ro • Ruth • Sharon Lee • Sherry • Stephanie • Sue • Suzanne & Jerry • Those at higher risk for COVID-19 • Those suffering from allergies • Those in nursing homes and long term care facilities • Tom, recovering from cancer • Tom F. • Virginia • Warren—fighting cancer • Wildfires in Arizona & California • Gail Zubl |
|--|--|--|



- Emery Castimore's 92nd birthday in June



PLEASE GIVE – Our church is not closed but is continuing to try to make a difference in the world. Folks from all over the states and even internationally are tuning in to our streaming worship. We appreciate both the giving of those who aren't regular members of our church as well as the generosity of our members. Please help us continue to be a presence online, through our food pantry, and in the missions we support around the world - for the need is greater than ever!



In addition to the options of mailing in a check, using Bill Pay at your bank, or using our e-Giving service, we are now able to offer you the option of giving through texting on your phone. Just text the word GIVE to 973-874-1277 and follow the link that will be texted back to you. You can donate using your credit card, debit card, checking or savings account.

NEW OFFICE HOURS – Secretary Laura is now in the office: Monday—Friday, 7:30-11am, and may be reached at 973-948-3495 or presbsec@ptd.net.

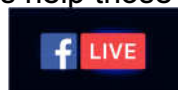


THE THRIFT YARD IS OPEN – The Daisey Roe's Thrift Shop has moved outdoors, and is open every Saturday from 9am to noon. They've gathered *lots* of items over the winter and are ready for sales! Stop by the church yard and see what catches your eye. All proceeds go to support their mission causes and the church. We hope to see you here!

THANK YOU YOUTH GROUP! A heartfelt thank you to our youth group for doing such a fantastic job on scraping, priming and painting the church stairs and ramp. We appreciate your hard work in making our church look beautiful!



WHO NEEDS A MEAL? The Deacons have a grant to send meals from a local restaurant to those struggling in this pandemic, and we wonder if you know of someone who could really use a meal delivered to their house? If so, please call the church and let us know who you are, and a Deacon will call you to get the details. Let's help those in need during this pandemic.



OUR WORSHIP CONTINUES ONLINE every Sunday morning at 10am streaming live on Facebook Live. "Friend" pastorjh@ptd.net and watch for the announcement that we've gone live. Afterward the video will be posted to YouTube—search there for "First Presbyterian Church of Branchville."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JULY/AUGUST

Anne McAuliffe	7/6	Alexis Legon	8/1
Bob Clark	7/8	Mark Clark	8/1
Heather Yaden	7/8	Eliza Osborne	8/4
Harrison Cardinale	7/9	Buzz Alden	8/7
Casey Cannon	7/12	Tara Hughes	8/12
Emilie Koszoru	7/15	James Swistack	8/15
Cassidy Preste	7/16	Laura Smith	8/15
John Preste	7/17	Bud Gardner	8/16
Maureen Block	7/18	Brent Cannon	8/17
Jacob Pullis	7/18	Lindsey Barton	8/17
Kelly Katzenstein	7/20	Madelyn McCurdy	8/19
Corbin Opilla	7/21	Austin Willis	8/20
Art Buehrer	7/22	Carol Vealey	8/21
Corie Hlavaty	7/24	Martyna Cannon	8/27
Lauren Cardinale	7/26	Jessica McCurdy	8/29
Patti Sandberg	7/31		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

FROZEN MARGARITA PIE

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 Tbsp. unsalted butter
- 10 graham crackers
- 3 Tbsp. sugar
- 1/2 tsp. kosher salt, divided
- 3/4 cup chilled heavy cream
- 4 limes, halved
- 1 (14-oz.) can sweetened condensed milk
- 3 Tbsp. tequila blanco



PREPARATION

1. Melt butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Let cool slightly.
2. Crumble graham crackers into a food processor. Add melted butter, sugar, and 1/4 tsp. salt and process until mixture resembles wet sand. Transfer mixture to a shallow 9"-diameter pie dish. Using the bottom of a measuring cup, press crust firmly and evenly across bottom and up sides of dish. Freeze 20 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, whisk cream in a medium bowl until stiff peaks form, about 4 minutes.
4. Finely grate zest from 1 lime half into a small bowl; set aside. Squeeze juice from all of the limes into a fine-mesh sieve set over a glass measuring cup (you should have about 1/2 cup juice).
5. Pour lime juice into another medium bowl. Add condensed milk, tequila, and remaining 1/4 tsp. salt and whisk until mixture is smooth. Gently fold in half of the whipped cream just to combine, then add the remaining whipped cream and gently fold until no streaks remain (be careful not to overmix; you want to keep as much air in the whipped cream as possible).
6. Remove pie dish from the freezer and scrape filling into crust. Use a spoon to gently spread filling evenly all the way to the edges. Sprinkle with reserved lime zest and freeze until filling is set, at least 8 hours.

Do Ahead: Pie can be made 3 days ahead. Cover; keep chilled. Let soften in fridge 30 minutes before slicing. Enjoy!

MISSION NEWS



DonorsChoose.org

Support a classroom. Build a future.

Hello Summer!! School was very different this year and we are not quite sure what next fall will look like but all the more reason to support those involved!! The Mission Committee would like to repeat last year's 3rd Quarter Mission effort with the charity called DonorsChoose.org which empowers public school teachers across the country to request much needed materials and experiences for their students. It's like a crowd funding for educational needs and well vetted by Charity Navigator, as well as other charity assessment organizations.

We all know that classroom teachers' budgets do not give them much room for extras and that they often spend their own money to enhance their students' experiences. This fund allows teachers to put out requests for an amount of money that will purchase a specific list of supplies, books, etc. We will let you know what some of the needs are and then, depending on how much we are able to collect, the committee will tell you what we actually helped the teachers purchase for their classroom. So, while you are enjoying the summer vacation months, maybe you can send a few dollars our way so that when September rolls around, we can help some deserving classrooms meet the needs of the students who enter in!!



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>

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

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



JULY 2020



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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AUGUST 2020



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