



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 20, No. 4

April 2020

APRIL AT A GLANCE:

2nd—Palm Sunday—Live Streaming Worship at 10am on Facebook



9th-Tenebrae—Live Streaming Worship at 7:30pm on Facebook



12th—Easter—Live Streaming Worship at 10am on Facebook



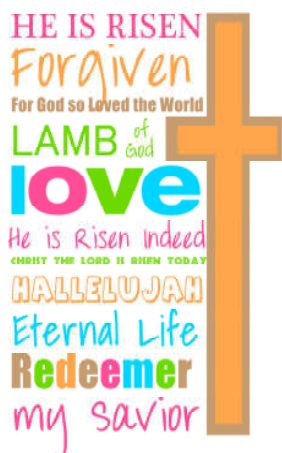
Every Sunday —10am Live Streaming Worship on Facebook and
then available on YouTube for later viewing



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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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Still the Church



When did the whole virus situation become real to you? For me it happened very quickly. Just 3 weeks ago on a Monday (3/9) we had a Session meeting where we discussed taking precautions during worship, like not passing the collection plate (but having it in the back for folks to drop in their offering), or not offering the Greeting, and we took the precautions very lightly, taking no official action. By Thursday, though, I had an email out to the elders asking again that we could take some very definite steps, and by the next day we had cancelled worship in the building altogether. Within the span of 4 days we went from joshing about taking precautions to closing our doors.

It was then that it became very real to me. We scrambled to figure out how to do Facebook Live, and after watching about 15 YouTube videos on how to do it, by Saturday had a procedure down. With just three of us we were able to stream a complete worship live from the sanctuary using Facebook, and then save the recording to post later on YouTube. Hectic days, for sure, but very satisfying ones that we were able to figure out how to cobble together enough technology to make it work.

And then something magical happened. We got word from members far and wide that they were able to participate in the service. We heard from members and previous members in Florida, New York City, Oklahoma, California, Michigan and other locales that they had connected to the service and were heartened to be a part of it. Folks commented throughout the service, "saw" each other online and felt connected to each other again. By the second week we had more watching online than would normally attend worship in person.

It's been just three weeks, but I think we have this whole procedure down. I was worried that folks would have a hard time connecting, and indeed a few have had technical difficulties, but it has gone a lot more smoothly than I'd ever dreamed it might. I've had (my own) family tune in from south Jersey and from North Carolina. I got an email from the brother of a member in MD who said when the quarantine has been lifted he'll be going back to his regular church but in the meantime he'll be a loyal online member tuning in to our service every week. I've heard from so many that they are grateful to be able, in these times of social distancing, to see a regular worship service, hear some beautiful organ music, and hear the Word preached.

What's happening in the world is an awful, terrible thing. Folks are dying in isolation, cut off from their families, and no one knows how long this whole lock-down is going to last. But in the midst of it we are still the church, the body of Christ, and are still finding a way to be together as a family of faith. And our family has grown in some ways, which is a blessing to each of us. So may the Lord help us through safely; may we each be cautious and extra careful to not expose ourselves to this raging virus; and may we be back together soon in-person. When that happens I think we'll all be able to acknowledge and better appreciate what a blessing it is to just be together. In the meantime, we'll continue to meet online and continue to be the church family we love and appreciate.

Your pastor,



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 & Ethan
- Walter Ackerly
- Active military
- All our families
- Al
- All those fighting cancer
- All front line healthcare workers
- All the residents at the Bentley and all nursing homes
- All seniors
- Aimee's Uncle Bob Genivisi
- Anthony & Samantha
- Ann
- John Arnedt
- Audrey
- Cathy Bambrick's mother, Lorraine
- Barbara
- Michael Caughman
- Corine Barton-chemo
- Ernie Chrisbacher
- Beth & Ken
- Buddy & Nancy
- Muriel Card
- Peg Carlson
- Chuck
- Roger Coss in Hospice and his family
- Dan

- The Family and friends of Duncan Caldwell
- Anna & Jorgen Clausen
- Leanne Dunn & her husband Corey
- Carole Edwards
- Erick
- Lorraine Feaser
- Greg
- Stephanie Guido, Lorraine Feaser's granddaughter who is an RN.
- Herolyn
- Phyllis & Lauren Hoke
- The Howell Family
- Ronnie Howell
- Rose Hyland
- The Klewin Family
- Irene
- Jack
- Jake
- Jean
- Jess
- Jim
- Jimmy E.
- Jo Ann
- Jodi
- Joe with cancer
- Joe & Robin
- John
- John Newcomer on the passing of his brother Tom.
- Jolene & John
- Justin age 39 on a respirator
- Joyce
- Karen
- Kate & Mike
- Ken
- Chick & Audrey Krug
- Kyle
- Amy Langley
- Family of Casey Leenheer
- Lillian Kinney
- Lisa & Rob
- Mary Beth
- Joanne McCain

- Mikey & Riley
- Jaye Miller with cancer
- Morgan
- Ruth Morrow
- Gail M.
- Pat & Dave
- John Pawelczyk
- People affected by the Corona Virus outbreak
- James Phillips who passed away due to cancer
- Prayers for all everyone to be able to get through this difficult time
- Prayers for parents with kids at home
- Quinn, Brian & Jamie –fighting COVID-19
- Rachel
- Carolyn Rauscher
- Rich
- Robin
- Michael Ryan
- Sarah
- Search for therapeutics that may help those with COVID-19
- Ana Selkow's mother Lydia
- Sharonlee Schaffer
- Sherry
- Stephanie
- Sue
- Suzanne & Jerry
- Those at higher risk for COVID-19
- Stella Trikourus
- Vanessa
- Victims of Tennessee Tornado
- Wycliffe
- Gail Zubl



NEW WAY TO GIVE—We now have giving through text 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 give by credit card or through your checking or savings account.

THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGHS). One-half of the OGHS offering will go to Presbyterian denominational programs which include Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program and the Self Development of People. Through our support of these programs we improve the living conditions, health, and economy of people throughout the world and show them God's love through their struggles.



Please make checks out to the church and mark your donation "OGHS" on the memo line. Please mail in your special offering. Together we can make a world of difference for those lacking the basics we take for granted...clean water, sanitation, medical care, and food. Thank you!

LETTER RECEIVED from a streaming worship viewer: Hello, I have begun watching your church services on YouTube. I enjoyed March 15th very much and look forward to today's when it is posted. I grew up in Branchville and your church, Sincerely, Tabby Turner (Elizabeth Oravetz)

CLOSINGS AND SCHEDULE CHANGES:

THE DAISEY ROE THRIFT SHOP will NOT be open for business until the viral threat is over. You may, however, call a Daisey Roe member or the church office to make arrangements to bring in items to donate. PLEASE DO NOT JUST LEAVE ITEMS ON THE BREEZEWAY. Thank you!



THE FISH & CHIPS DINNER has been postponed until a later date.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION has been postponed until a later date

DAISEY ROE FLEA MARKET has been postponed until a later date.

Our Worship Is Now Online



Our worship schedule is every Sunday morning at 10a.m. 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 for “First Presbyterian Church of Branchville.”

In April there will be worship and communion on **Palm Sunday (4/5)**.

Please have a piece of bread available and some “fruit of the vine” (grape, apple, or orange juice or wine—or actually any other beverage) on hand so that come time for the Lord’s Supper we may all commune together.

Same for **Maundy Thursday**—have your own communion elements handy. The service will be held at 7:30pm and will still be a Tenebrae (darkening of the lights) service with candles.

EASTER morning please tune in for our celebratory worship service praising God for his resurrection at 10am! In preparation for this service, please send in to Pastor Jeff any photos you take between now and then that show *hope* (like a child playing, a plant growing, a beautiful sunset, etc.). Email them to pastorjh@ptd.net, and they will be shown Easter morning.

DONATE TO OUR PVR CAMPAIGN

You may give a gift in memory or in honor of a loved one to help grow our PVR campaign. Make checks payable to "First Presbyterian Church" along with your order form and mail to the church at PO Box 1, Branchville, NJ 07826.

Donate to the PVR Campaign



In Memory of _____

-or-

In Honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone # _____



SUNDAY SCHOOL

This is the bulletin board that was done by the Sunday School children prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Just a reminder that we all have to have patience, practice kindness, have faith in God and we will get through this together.

View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbbranchville.org>

and Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com>

(ask to be friends with

["pastorjh@ptd.net"](mailto: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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY APRIL

Julie Anderson Clawson	4/06	Ethan Billings	4/25
Kelly Decker	4/06	Alec Hughes	4/26
Liam Reinertsen	4/06	Charlotte Lawson	4/26
Kristin Becker	4/08	Susan Martin	4/26
David Yaden	4/08	Madison Bath	4/27
Lauren Seeger	4/09	Aaron Kurland	4/27
Leonard Clawson	4/14	Joshua Langley	4/28
MaryBeth Dean	4/14	Karin Nucci	4/29
Michael Goldsworthy	4/23	Debbie Anderson	4/30
Marion Alden	4/25		

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

NONNA'S PASTICCIOTTI

For the Dough:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/4 cup shortening
- 1/4 cup milk

For the Filling:

- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1 cup milk
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 egg, beaten, for the egg wash



Custard Directions: Sift the cornstarch and sugar then put in a saucepan. Add the milk and heavy cream and whisk lightly until you obtain a smooth mixture. Whisk in the egg, then heat on medium until custard thickens.

Mix in the butter and almond extract. Remove from heat and cover custard with plastic wrap to prevent a skin from forming while it cools.

Pastry Directions: In a food processor add the flour, sugar, salt and baking powder. Pulse until all mixed. Add the butter and shortening then pulse until mixture looks like crumbly cornmeal. Add egg, milk and vanilla and mix until dough starts to form a ball. Turn out dough onto a board and lightly work dough until it's smooth.

Divide dough into two flattened rounds, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 hour. Starting with the first piece of dough, place it onto a floured board. Roll it out to 1/4" thick. Using a 3 inch pastry cutter or glass, cut out 12 rounds. Place each round into the muffin pan and press into mold to remove all air. Add about 2 tablespoons of the custard to each of the molds. Cover each with a 3" round of dough. Let chill in refrigerator for an hour or overnight. Brush tops with egg wash, then bake at 425° for 15-18 minutes.

Buona Pasqua!



APRIL 2020



First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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