



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church  
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 20, No. 11

NOVEMBER 2020



## AT A GLANCE:

3rd Election Day—Vote!



8th Stewardship Sunday



26th Happy Thanksgiving



29th First Sunday of Advent



First Sunday of Advent

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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# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



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



**VOLUME 20, NO. 11**

**NOVEMBER 2020**

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## Unity Doesn't Mean Uniformity



A General Assembly Report from our denomination a few years back said this:

"...it is self-evident that people tend to prefer the understanding of Jesus Christ which gives expression to their own experience. This is only natural. The problem arises when one group of people assumes its experience to be the only valid experience, exalting and universalizing its own expression of faith. Such exclusivity not only denigrates the faith of others; it also shuts off valid challenges and enrichments which may come from others."

*(From the PCUSA report to General Assembly "Is Christ Divided?")*

What makes this such a timely quote for me is if you were to substitute "politics" for both "Jesus Christ" and for "faith" in the above paragraph. That's what our country seems to have done recently. We hear about the division in our country, and wonder how it got to be as bad as it is. Presidential politicians aside, the bigger question is whether our country can move past this election and still claim to be the *United States of America*?

I believe we can, and that we Christians should lead the way. Whatever the outcome of the election is (and this is being written the day before the election), I believe that we each have a part to play in helping our nation heal. Which-ever party wins and whichever loses, I hope there will be consideration for the other side, and a recognition that both parties have plusses that make our nation stronger. What part can each of us play in bringing about greater understanding? When others around us gloat or moan at the outcome, we as Christ's representatives can speak words of hope, of comfort, and of unity as Americans amidst our diverse political viewpoints.

Our denomination began with historic principles written back in 1788 that included this: "*Therefore, we consider the rights of private judgment, in all matters that respect religion, as universal and unalienable*". Just as it is in our DNA as Presbyterians to respect each others' opinions about religion, let us do so regarding others' politics. This is an amazing country, and I believe we each have a duty as citizens and as Christians to do our best to promote unity, rather than pushing for uniformity, for in our diversity lies our strength.

Your Pastor,

*Jefferson L. Hatch*

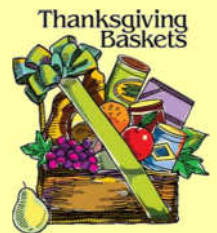


**PLEDGING IS DOWN** - In looking over our budget as we come to the end of the year, pledges *made* through October are \$93,667.50, but pledges actually *received* are only \$88,207. Please check to make sure your pledge is up-to-date – your support of our ministries and missions is appreciated. Thank you for your generosity and commitment.

**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.

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.

**THANKSGIVING BASKETS** - It's that time of year again. We will be providing Thanksgiving baskets to our food pantry patrons so that they may enjoy a complete Thanksgiving meal. We will need 25 turkeys, masked potatoes and stuffing. So please keep that in mind and start earning your points for a free turkey from the local supermarkets. **Please drop off your donations by November 15th.** Please call Laura at the church as to what you are donating and she will add your name to the list. Thank you!



**PER CAPITA REMINDER** - Just a friendly reminder for those who have not yet paid their Per Capita this year. It is \$39 per person and helps our church a great deal when we don't have to take such a large sum from our already tight budget. We have paid \$2144 to Per Capita to date, but still owe \$6280. Thank you for your generosity.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2020** - Any offerings that you wish to be posted for 2020 must be received by December 31, 2020.

**USHERS & REGISTRARS NEEDED FOR DECEMBER**—If you can help out, please contact either Judy Casey or Margie Mills. Thank you!





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"> <li>• Walter Ackerly</li> <li>• Boyd Adams with kidney tumor</li> <li>• All front line workers</li> <li>• All those fighting cancer</li> <li>• All those with anxiety and depression</li> <li>• Alex</li> <li>• Alyse</li> <li>• Ann</li> <li>• John Arnedt</li> <li>• Audrey</li> <li>• Autumn's dog, Mac</li> <li>• Bea</li> <li>• Phil B.</li> <li>• Joyce B.</li> <li>• Barbara</li> <li>• Beth</li> <li>• Beth &amp; Ken</li> <li>• Ben</li> <li>• Deb &amp; Pat Berry recovering from Covid-19</li> <li>• Bill</li> <li>• Brittney</li> <li>• Linda Buehrer</li> <li>• Roberta Burkhart</li> <li>• Muriel Card</li> <li>• Cass</li> <li>• Peg Carlson</li> <li>• Greta Caton, Amy Joaquin's daughter, recovering from spinal surgery</li> <li>• Chris</li> <li>• Connie</li> <li>• Corine</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Crump recovering from triple bypass surgery</li> <li>• Maria's friend David is now cancer free</li> <li>• Sharon Day in quarantine</li> <li>• Dave &amp; Pat</li> <li>• Nancy Dean</li> <li>• Debbie &amp; Tom</li> <li>• Greg DeVita</li> <li>• Donald</li> <li>• Donna</li> <li>• Doug</li> <li>• Carole Edwards</li> <li>• Lorraine Feaser</li> <li>• Maureen Gallo, on a ventilator</li> <li>• Greg</li> <li>• Roy &amp; Donna Havelin</li> <li>• Helms Family as they grieve Warren's death</li> <li>• Harry Horodeck, Jr.</li> <li>• Rich Innes</li> <li>• Irene</li> <li>• Jack</li> <li>• Jeanne</li> <li>• For healing Rich's friend, Jeremy</li> <li>• Jess</li> <li>• Jim</li> <li>• John</li> <li>• Johnny</li> <li>• Jolene &amp; John</li> <li>• Justin</li> <li>• Karen P</li> <li>• Kate &amp; Mike</li> <li>• Ken</li> <li>• Kevin</li> <li>• Grandfather Gene Kresge</li> <li>• Amy, Dave &amp; Josh Langley</li> <li>• Lars that he may be able to come home from the hospital</li> <li>• Larry</li> <li>• Linda</li> <li>• Frannie Long</li> <li>• Lorraine</li> <li>• Sharon Lee</li> <li>• Gail Leypoldt</li> <li>• Linda</li> <li>• Lisa &amp; Rob</li> <li>• Donna Majorano</li> <li>• Mary Jo</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mikey</li> <li>• Sherry Moon</li> <li>• Morgan</li> <li>• Ruth Morrow</li> <li>• Gail M.</li> <li>• Nancy</li> <li>• Natalie</li> <li>• Nori</li> <li>• NY Yankees &amp; all professional athletes trying to do their job</li> <li>• Joe Oliver</li> <li>• Jeremiah Ontiri</li> <li>• Paul Opilla, recovering from heart surgery</li> <li>• Karen P</li> <li>• Peg &amp; Mary</li> <li>• Family of Carolyn Rauscher</li> <li>• Ray &amp; Diane</li> <li>• Rick</li> <li>• Riley</li> <li>• Robin &amp; Joe</li> <li>• Grandma Roe</li> <li>• Roberta</li> <li>• Roddy</li> <li>• Ruth</li> <li>• Salli</li> <li>• Toni Shanstra</li> <li>• Sharon Lee</li> <li>• James Seeger's dad, Joe fighting Covid-19 in the hospital</li> <li>• Sherry</li> <li>• Smith Family after the passing of Nancy</li> <li>• Sue</li> <li>• Suzanne &amp; Jerry</li> <li>• Takach Family after the passing of Richard</li> <li>• Mary Jo Tomei</li> <li>• Rich V.</li> <li>• Jacquie Rothrock Vealey and her family after her father recently passed</li> <li>• Michelle Walker</li> <li>• Kohlton Ward's family,</li> <li>• Walsh/Baker Families on the passing of Mary Baker, Meghan and Bill</li> <li>• Richard &amp; Dot Westpy</li> <li>• Joe Westorp with a broken hip</li> <li>• Becky Willis for her knee surgery</li> <li>• Debbie Yaniga's family after her passing</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

## MISSION NEWS

### 4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER MISSION - FAMILY PROMISE OF SUSSEX COUNTY

We are all painfully aware of the devastation that the Covid 19 Pandemic has caused in our country and our community. And we all know that lost jobs and lost income increases homelessness. *That is why our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Mission is especially important!*

**Family Promise of Sussex County** provides services to assist families and single men and women as they work towards housing stability and self-sufficiency. Family Promise of Sussex County works to eradicate homelessness in Sussex County and provides resources to strengthen children and families. They provide emergency shelter, meals, counseling, and intensive case management services. Your contributions to the 4th Quarter Mission will go to this very worthy program to help our Sussex County neighbors who are in dire need. You may mail a check made out to First Presbyterian Church of Branchville with "Family Promise" in the memo. Your contributions to special mission projects make a big difference!! Thank you for your generosity.



### 3rd QUARTER MISSION - DONORSCHOOSE.ORG

Our 3rd Quarter Mission was DonorsChoose.org and with the money donated, the Mission Committee was able to fund the following schools and their projects:

Mrs. Monahan / Port Jervis High School—Proudly Supporting the Armed Services with Letters and Care Packages!

Mrs. Outland / Rocky Mount Middle School —Remotely Successful!

Ms. Rasmussen / Kahuku High & Intermediate School—Interactive Labs for Distance Learning Chemistry and Physics.

Mrs. Tenney / Eleanor C. Emlen Elementary School—Supplies for In-Person Learning

Ms. Loyola / High Point Regional High School—Stamp Out Racism One Book at a Time



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**Dear Member of Youth Group,**

**Thank you so much for your generous donation towards our fight to end ALS. It was so nice to see so many people from church walk with us. It made it extra special.**

**With sincere appreciation,  
Donna & Roy Havelin**



## DAISEY ROE NEWS

Our thrift shop had a late opening this year, but we have extended our Saturdays through December 5th. Our shoppe has been transformed into our CHRISTMAS SHOPPE, plus. Decorations, collectables, gift, linen and things, jewelry, ladies apparel, handbags, warm jackets and more priced for your budget, Dates and times are:

Saturdays 9am-12pm on November 14th, 21, 28 and December 5.

The Thrift Shop's last day will be December 5th. PLEASE DO NOT DONATE ANY MORE THRIFT SHOP ITEMS—AND ALL CLOTHING MUST BE PUT IN OUR CLOTHING DRIVE BOX ON BREEZEWAY IN BAGS. The Daisey Roe ladies appreciate and thank you for your donations and support over the past months. Thank you!!



## THANK YOU'S FROM COLLEGE STUDENT MEMBERS

Good evening, I am one of the college students who the First Presbyterian Church in Branchville is sending out care packages to. I just wanted to write a thank you to the church for it.

These past few months have been hard, with losing my mom in January and many other friends losing family as well, on top of Covid, but little things like getting a package of goodies in the mail have been the little pinpoints of light in this year. I feel as though I have grown a lot in the past few months, and I have people like you who have helped me realize that. Thank you to all of you at the church who care, and even though we cannot meet in person, know that we are all still together through all of this. –William Loos

\*\*\*\*\*

I just received the church's Halloween care package and want to thank the congregation for this! It is great to know that the church is thinking about me all those miles away.

Thank you! Aaron Kurland

\*\*\*\*\*

Hi Church Members, I wanted to reach out and thank you all for the care package and all of the goodies that came with it! I am so thankful! Hope all is going well there and everyone is staying safe and healthy. Hope to see you soon!

Thank you all again so much, Emily Billings

\*\*\*\*\*

I loved it, thank you so much everyone!! -Lia McAuliffe

\*\*\*\*\*

Hello It's Griffin Sandberg, wanted to give a thank you for the Halloween care package I received. I appreciate it, my day has been made. Happy Halloween! 🍬



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOVEMBER

Kelly Osborne	11/2	Jeanne Grau	11/15
Kim Rath Wall	11/3	Wayne Block	11/17
Kristen Rath Reinertsen	11/3	Jesse Hughes	11/17
Leza Pullis	11/3	Caitlin Dean	11/21
Vanessa Clark	11/6	Audra Preste	11/22
Virginia Fielden	11/6	Henry Cardinale	11/23
Terry Fielden	11/7	Jean Koszoru	11/23
Lia McAuliffe	11/7	Mina Koszoru	11/23
Liz Yaden	11/7	Danielle Nussberger	11/29
Tyler Van Houten	11/9	Danielle Swanson	11/29
Travis Pullis	11/11	Linda Osborne	11/30
Jeff Hatch	11/14		
Scott Hatch	11/14		

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### BLUE CHEESE/THYME POPOVERS

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Large eggs
- 2 Tbs. unsalted butter, melted
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 3 oz. blue cheese (or cheese of choice)
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1 cup flour
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 Tbs. finely chopped thyme



#### DIRECTIONS:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, melted butter, flour, salt and pepper. Whisk until lumps have disappeared. Whisk in cheese and thyme.
2. Cover and chill batter in airtight container for at least 2 hours or up to 24 hours in refrigerator.
3. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Generously butter mini muffin tins. Fill each cup up to the top with the chilled batter.
4. Bake popovers until golden and puffed, 15 to 20 minutes. Serve immediately. Enjoy!



## NOVEMBER

### REGISTRARS

*1st-Gay Plog  
8th-Gail Burckes  
15th-Karen Pawelczyk  
22nd-Kathleen Katzenstein  
29th-*

### USHERS

*1st-Carol Vealey  
8th-Lisa Hughes  
15th-Pat Leenheer  
22nd-Wende Clausen  
29th-Lois Kinney*

### LAY READERS

*1st-Paula Clark  
8th-Kathleen Katzenstein  
15th-Becky Goldsworthy  
22nd-Judy Casey  
29th-Trish Cherny*

### NOVEMBER FLOWER CHART:

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

#### Dates:

*1st-Available  
8th-Available  
15th-Available  
22nd-Available  
29th-Available*

*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*



View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbranchville.org>

and join us for live-streamed worship  
on Facebook at:

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

You may e-mail

the secretary at [presbsec@ptd.net](mailto:presbsec@ptd.net)  
or the pastor at [pastorjh@ptd.net](mailto:pastorjh@ptd.net)

View a daily devotion at:

<http://www.d365.org>

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Laura Scherr, Copy Editor







# NOVEMBER 2020



## First Presbyterian Church of Branchville



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<div>1</div> <div>2:00 AM Daylight Savings Ends, set clocks back 1 hour</div> <div>10:00 AM In-Person Worship/Communion &amp; Livestream Worship</div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>5</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div> <div>6:30 PM -8:00 PM Bells of Branchville Rehearsal</div>	<div>6</div>	<div>7</div> <div>9:00 AM -12:00 PM Daisy Roe Thrift Shop open</div> <div>\$5 Bag Sale</div> <div></div> <div>Thrift Shop \$5 BAG SALE</div>																																																																																																		
<div>8</div> <div>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Livestream Worship, Stewardship Sunday, Baptism of Brooke Dylan Denzer-Weiler</div> <div>10:42 AM Confirmation Class via Zoom</div> <div>1:00 PM Communities Little Helpers Meets</div>	<div>9</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>10</div> <div>7:00 PM Friendship Circle Meeting</div> <div>7:00 PM Presbytery Meeting via Zoom</div>	<div>11</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div> <div>3:00 PM Daisy Roe Meeting</div>	<div>12</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div> <div>9:00 AM -12:00 PM Daisy Roe Christmas Sale</div>																																																																																																		
Pastor Jeff & Kay away on vacation																																																																																																								
<div>15</div> <div>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Livestream Worship</div> <div>Pastor Jeff &amp; Kay away</div>	<div>16</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div> <div>3:00 PM Music &amp; Worship Meeting</div> <div>7:00 PM Session Meeting via Zoom</div>	<div>17</div> <div>7:00 PM Deacons' Meeting</div> <div></div>	<div>18</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>19</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div> <div>6:30 PM -8:00 PM Bells of Branchville Rehearsal</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <div>9:00 AM -12:00 PM Daisy Roe Christmas Sale</div>																																																																																																		
<div>22</div> <div>10:00 AM In-Person Worship &amp; Livestream Worship</div> <div>1:00 PM Youth Group Meets to Watch a Movie</div>	<div>23</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Happy Thanksgiving! office closed</div> <div></div>	<div>27</div> <div>Office closed</div>	<div>28</div> <div>9:00 AM -12:00 PM Daisy Roe Christmas Sale</div>																																																																																																		
<div>29</div> <div>10:00 AM In-Person Worship, Livestream Worship, Communion Sunday, 1st Sunday of Advent</div> <div></div>	<div>30</div> <div>10:00 AM -12:30 PM Food Pantry open</div>	<div></div> <div><table><tr><th colspan="7">Oct 2020</th></tr><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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr></table><table><tr><th colspan="7">Dec 2020</th></tr><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>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr><tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table><div></div></div>					Oct 2020							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	31	Dec 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	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	31		
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