



CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 21, No. 9

SEPTEMBER 2021



AT A GLANCE:

6th **LABOR DAY**
(office closed)



11th **DAISEY ROE FLEA MARKET**



12th **RALLY DAY**



22nd **1ST DAY OF AUTUMN**



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



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
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BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826



VOLUME 21, NO. 9

SEPTEMBER 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Where Are We At?



Where are we at in terms of re-opening our sanctuary for worship this fall? Good question! If only the virus would settle down and stop mutating we'd have a more solid answer for you. The Session met last month and decided to continue our outdoor worship for the month of September so that we all stay as safe as possible.

Here are a number of factors that we will need to weigh in the weeks ahead:

- The CDC recommends wearing masks inside while this Delta variant is still ravaging our country.
- Our Presbytery recommends that we wear masks inside during indoor worship, or worship outdoors.
- As fall happens we won't be able to be outside for much longer.
- The Delta variant is transmissible to those who are fully vaccinated.
- Someone who attended our worship services regularly before the pandemic is fully vaccinated, but contracted Covid-19 anyway. His symptoms were mild, but quarantined for 10 days and didn't pass it along to anyone else. He said he knows of many others who have also contracted it despite being fully vaccinated.
- Children are now more susceptible to this new variant, and children under 12 have not been approved to receive the vaccination yet.
- Members of our church bring their children to worship, so we need to protect them as much as possible.
- I spoke to my GP doctor who said if you have anyone who is immunocompromised in your church, including children who haven't been or can't be vaccinated, those with diabetes, anyone fighting cancer, etc., then everyone should be wearing a mask around them indoors (other than worship leaders if they're at least 10 feet away from the closest worshiper).
- We've learned that it's okay now to sing with your mask on.

Information continues to come in scientifically-based on studies which has changed what we know now from when this virus first appeared. Recommendations have changed over the past year and a half because we're learning more each day, so we as a caring church must continue to adapt. We thought we were headed into a fully open church program by this fall, but this setback is both disappointing and an ongoing challenge. We will do our best to keep everyone safe while still offering worship and programs that are as full as possible. We've made it this far, let's hang tough as we continue to be Christ's body in this place for each other and for those in need.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Jeff



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.

- All those dealing with cancer
- All the women and children in Afghanistan
- All those children suffering from Covid
- All those in the path of the hurricane around New Orleans
- Amy
- Ann
- Aaron & Ethan
- Aaron & Beth
- Alex & Danielle
- Barbara
- Ben
- Beth
- Betty & Dominick
- Joan Ann Bischoff
- Bobby
- Peg Carlson
- Greta Caton
- Charles & Clara have a safe travels
- Cheryl
- Chris
- Irene Clark
- Corine
- Cory
- David
- Barbara Davis
- Debbie
- Makenzi Decker (Crone's flare up)
- Nick Devita
- Edwin
- Ed
- Elaine
- Tony Frato, Sr.
- Linda G.
- Jeff Gaynor, had heart valve surgery
- The family of Ron Gibbins, Jr.
- Grace
- Catherine Halstead
- Heather
- Molly Hoskins, age 5 with Covid 19
- Irene
- Jack
- Jay (back on campus!!)
- Jean Marie
- Jesse
- Jimmy
- Jeff
- Jessica
- Jess & George
- John
- Joseph
- Joyce
- Judy
- Karen with an eye injury
- Kathy
- Bev Keur with Lyme Disease
- The Keur Family on the loss of Bev's mom
- Kevin
- Kevin & Liam
- Chick Krug
- Lewis battling COPD
- Linda Buehrer
- Linda G.
- Lisa
- Lisa & Rob
- Lois
- Lorraine
- Mark
- Mary Ellen
- Meghan
- Gail M.
- Morgan
- Heather Morse
- Mira
- Nan with Lyme Disease
- Nancy
- Natalie
- Nick
- Joyce O.
- Pastor Jeff—Lyme Disease
- Karen P. on the one year anniversary of losing John
- John Preste's mother who fell and broke her hip
- Family of Hugh Risdon
- Ruth
- Sandy
- Scott
- Sharon Lee
- Shawn
- Sherry
- Shirley
- Laura Smith
- Stevie
- Sue
- Timmy & Amy
- Gabe Titus, 16 year old in Morristown ICU
- Don Thomas
- Robin Van Dyk on the loss of her father, Gilbert Jacobs
- Velez family
- John V.
- Laurie Witter's family
- Hunter Wolfe
- We pray, too, for a more peaceful world, and ask that you point us in any direction that will help
- For the 13 soldiers and who were killed in the attack in Afghanistan, please help their families



DAISEY ROE FLEA MARKET & BRANCHVILLE GARAGE SALE DAY- Fall is just around the corner. The Daisey Roe Chain is planning their 23rd Annual Fall Flea Market including the Thrift Shop on Saturday, September 11th, from 9am to 2pm. Join us for coffee and bagels and hot dogs for lunch, shop the vendors and thrift shop. Please plan to be on hand, your help is needed. A moment of silence will be observed. Gay suggested shifts morning or afternoon, please volunteer. This event helps support our church, your help will make it a big success. Thank you in advance for your help.



Our group will be renting tables indoors or outdoors for \$20 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, so please send in your check by September 3, 2021 to reserve your space. Co-Chairwomen: Marion Alden, Beverly Keur. Checks payable to: Daisey Roe Chain and mail to: First Presbyterian Church, P.O. Box 2597, Branchville NJ 07826 or call 973-948-5197.

THANK YOU! Daisey Roe Chain received a thank you from Melanie Roney, Mission Specialist, East for our gift from the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. (This was possible from our spring plant sale through C&C Growers). They would like to hear more about Daisey Roe Chain of FPC and how this gift came about. Stories and pictures are such an important part of inspiring others.

RALLY DAY is on Sunday, September 12th and will be a fun filled adventure with a welcome craft, a song, a prayer, and playing on the playground (hopefully!) Please join us for a fun day to kick off our Sunday School year.

PER CAPITA REMINDER - Just a friendly reminder for those who have not yet paid their Per Capita this year. It is \$40/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 \$2083 to Per Capita to date, but still owe \$6357. Thank you for your anticipated generosity



FLOWERS FOR THE CHURCH - Flowers may be provided for our church services each Sunday for a small \$15 donation to our flower account. You may sign up on the Flower Chart in the Holland Tunnel. Give info to Gail Burckes for bulletin. Please write "Flowers for Sunday" in the memo on your check. Thanks You!



THANK YOU - Thank you to Mike & Karen Opilla for graciously hosting worship on their beautiful farm on 8/29. It was a lovely day enjoyed by all who attended.

3rd QUARTER MISSION



DonorsChoose.org

Support a classroom. Build a future.

School is BACK in the swing of things!! Once again the Mission Committee would like to repeat our 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 crowd funding for educational needs and is 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. Depending on how much we are able to collect, the committee will tell you what we actually helped the teachers purchase for their classroom. We are in the final month for collection and hope that you'll be able to contribute!!

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COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Summer is almost over and many of our young members have already left or will be returning to college soon. If you have a young member who is attending college this fall or has just graduated from high school, please email his/her name and address to the church office at presbsec@ptd.net (even if it has not changed).

If your young member has graduated from his/her four-year college program, please be sure to notify either the church office or a member of the Fellowship Committee so that we can update our listing for the soon-to-come fall mailing of the college care packages. I know the summer can get busy with vacations, day trips, and just everyday life so if you can take just a minute to help us compile an accurate list of our young members who will be attending college this fall it is much appreciated.

Thank you, The Fellowship Committee (Debbie Gardner, Chair)

NAME

Year in School (freshman, sophomore, etc.)

School Name, if Applicable

Email address

Street Address

City, State, Zip



PARTING IS SUCH SWEET SORROW

Dear Church Family,

As many of you know there are big changes in my household: we're moving to Bluffton, SC. The closing date for our house in Sparta is on September 20th and we are in a frenzy packing up 30 years' worth of stuff. We are excited, sad, happy and nervous. We know it's a good and right decision to move near my family, but it's also sad to leave the friends that we've made. I will especially miss my church family here. It is with a heavy heart that I announce my last day as your secretary and treasurer will be September 15th.

To Pastor Jeff, thank you for being the greatest boss of all time! You are truly a wonderful pastor and person who works tirelessly to make the world a better place. I am so grateful for your friendship. Thank you for always going out of your way to make me feel appreciated and valued. To Kay, thank you for being the kindest person I've ever met. You are a beautiful person, inside and out. You lift people up by your example and I am so thankful for your friendship.

To my church family, it has been my joy, honor and privilege to work for you and with you. This is a very special church, full of caring, kind and lovely people. This small church does mighty things and puts so much goodness and love out in the world. I am so thankful that I've been able to help in a small way the mission of this incredible church. It's so hard to say good-bye, this church and all of you are such a blessing. I will miss you more than I can ever express. Thank you for letting me be part of this church, I will always treasure my time spent here.

Please keep in touch, I will send my permanent address once we move into our new home.

My temporary mailing address will be:

612 Hulston Landing Road, Bluffton, SC 29909

my email is: njlaura@yahoo.com and my cell phone is: 973-970-0828.

Much love,

Laura



+

Rotary
Club of
Branchville



2021 State Fair Coffee Sales Update

The NJ State Fair was different this year, especially for our church. Instead of setting up our trailer and selling our usual coffee and smoothies, we did a “condensed” version of our booth and teamed up with Branchville Rotary to sell hot and iced Coffee (not smoothies.) We sold 495 cups of coffee, worked together as a church as well as helped out a local community group. It was a different, VERY HOT experience for all of us.

Although there were only 8 days of the Fair this year, we still needed many helpers and volunteers to be able to participate. **Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make this event a success!** A special thanks goes out to John Preste for doing the difficult job of transporting and somehow making the correct connections so that our coffee machine worked in the Rotary Booth, and to Liz Yaden who tirelessly called people so that we had a full roster of workers. Other volunteers and helpers* included:

Marion Alden	Kay Hatch	John Preste
Debbie Anderson	Kathleen Katzenstein	Bob Price
Cathy Bambrick	Joanne Lawson	Jean Ransom
Gail Burckes	Anne McAuliffe	Jack Scherr
Judyth Casey	John Newcomer	Laura Scherr
Wende Clausen	Mike Opilla	Gary Snyder
Debbie Gardner	Doreen Palma	Gina Snyder
Becky Goldsworthy	Victoria Palma	Nancy Swanson
Cathy Goldsworthy	Susan Parson	David Yaden
Pastor Jeff Hatch	Gay Plog	Liz Yaden
		Gail Zubl

*I apologize ahead of time if I inadvertently did not include your name.

MUSIC NEWS

**THE BELLS OF BRANCHVILLE**

will begin rehearsals soon.
Keep your eyes "pealed" --
more information will be
in the bulletin in early September.

CHANCEL CHOIR MEETING, THURSDAY, SEPT. 9, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall at 7:30. We usually meet the 1st Thursday after Labor Day so I'd like to go ahead and meet on Thursday the 9th and discuss possibilities/opportunities for upcoming choir rehearsals. Are you comfortable sitting in the choir loft? Are you comfortable singing with or without a mask? And we'll answer other questions that people have asked. **NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS INVITED TO COME TO JOIN.**

Stay safe and I'll see you soon. --Kay



everyone is welcome

all voices are needed

no experience
is necessary
to sing!

**JOIN
THE
CHOIR TODAY!**



Hey, It's Team Travelin' for Havelin!
It is time again for our 12th annual Walk to Defeat ALS!!

When: Sunday, October 17th, 11:30am
Where: Frankford Park, Branchville, NJ

All proceeds will go to the ALS Association, Greater NY Chapter, for the benefit of patients and much needed research to eradicate this horrific disease.

Calling team Travelin' for Havelin, please mark your calendars for Sunday, October 17th, 11:30. Frankford Park. We had so many from our church family join us last year, we decided to do it locally again this year so we hope you can make it as we continue our fight against ALS! Thank you.

We hope that we will see you and your friends on Sunday, October 17th, to walk with us and help us celebrate our 12th anniversary! If you cannot attend, but will be making a donation, thanks so much for your generosity.

If you are not able to walk that day and would like to make a donation we would be very appreciative. Please make your check out to "ALSA" and mail to Donna Havelin or the church office. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at: 973-903-2207 (Donna's cell) or email: havelin9@gmail.com. Roy and I appreciate all of your continued support!

With sincere thanks, gratitude and love,

Donna and Roy Havelin
9 White Birch Court
Branchville, NJ 07826

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER

Lauren Bath	9/1	Donna Havelin	9/16
Regina Snyder	9/1	Nancy Swanson	9/21
Cathy Goldsworthy	9/8	Mike Osborne	9/22
Griffin Sandberg	9/8	Nancy Price	9/23
James Van Houten	9/9	Stephanie Block	9/24
Jaycee Sandberg	9/10	Rachel McAuliffe	9/25
Corinne Coulter	9/12	Gavin Leenheer	9/26
Pat Leenheer	9/13	Cooper Cannon	9/27
Craig Sandberg	9/13	Becky Goldsworthy	9/30

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

SHEET PAN SHRIMP FRIED RICE

INGREDIENTS:

4 cups cooked white rice
 5 scallions, thinly sliced
 2 scallions, dark green parts sliced thinly
 2 large carrots, peeled and grated
 3/4 cups frozen peas, thawed
 2 garlic cloves, finely grated
 1 Tbs. fresh ginger, finely grated
 1/4 cup vegetable oil
 1/4 cup soy sauce
 3 Tbs. seasoned rice wine vinegar
 1 Tbs. sesame oil
 3 large eggs, beaten
 1lb. Medium shrimp, peeled & deveined
 Toasted sesame seeds and sriracha, for serving.



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 475 degrees F.
2. Toss together the rice, sliced scallions, carrots, peas, garlic, ginger, vegetable oil, soy sauce, vinegar and sesame oil in a large bowl until the rice is completely coated. Spread on a sheet pan and bake until the rice begins to toast on the outer edges, about 15 minutes. Toss the rice on the sheet pan using a metal spatula, scraping up any stuck-on pieces. Drizzle the eggs over the rice and nestle in the shrimp. Continue baking until the shrimp and eggs are cooked through, 5 to 10 minutes more. Top with the toasted sesame seeds and reserved dark green scallions and divide among 4 plates. Serve with sriracha on the side.
3. Enjoy!



LAY READERS

SEPTEMBER

5th –Liz Dietz
 12th-Susan Martin
 19th-Marion Alden
 26th-Linda Osborne

USHERS

SEPTEMBER

5th - Karen Pawelczyk & Kathleen Katzenstein
 12th– Debbie Anderson & Nancy Swanson
 19th - Pat Leenheer & Nancy Clink
 26th - Buzz & Marion Alden



SEPTEMBER FLOWER CHART:

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

Dates:

SEPTEMBER

5th
 12th
 19th
 26th

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

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>



SEPTEMBER 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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