



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church  
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 21, No. 1

JANUARY 2021



AT A GLANCE

31st—Congregational Meeting via Zoom



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

LIVESTREAM  
WORSHIP 

# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



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



**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.

**VOLUME 21, NO. 1**

**JANUARY 2021**

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

## Necessary Self-Control



*"The fruit of the Spirit is ... self-control." -Galatians 5:23*

Nancy Swider was a speed skating athlete who had the desire to make the US Olympic team, and she had the ability. But what she also had, that set her apart from so many, was self-discipline. She focused herself entirely on that goal. One example was when her friends were up late partying, she was out at the school track, shoveling snow off of it so that she could get a few more wind sprints in. She would then get up early for pre-dawn workouts, and went on to not only make the team, but set a world record. *"And that's no way to live if you don't care about the Olympics. It's the only way to live if you do."*\*

We are in a weird place in time where much of the world is in lock-down from this pandemic, and our own online-only worship seems to have gone on for longer than we ever wanted or imagined. It's in no way the ideal way to do "church," and we truly miss being around others and the fellowship that comes from that. Encouraging each other, sharing common difficulties, praying for each other, and laughing over everyday occurrences are ways we give each other a spiritual boost to follow the commandment of loving each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Being apart stinks.

Bishop Fulton Sheen once wrote, *"Our Lord did not ask us to give up the things of earth, but to exchange them for better things."*\* I think he means that being devoted to God with our whole selves, means that at times we have to set aside our own wants for something better. Just as Nancy Swider set aside partying with her friends for shoveling a track and doing wind sprints, at this point in history our wants for fellowship have to be set aside for doing church in a way that keeps each of us safe and keeps our neighbors safe as well. Instead of focusing on how stinky it is to be apart, we live with the discipline of this quarantine and thank God that we have ways of connecting that would have been impossible just a few years ago. Online church is not the best way to enjoy fellowship and worship, but it's the best way we have *right now*, and for that we give thanks.

I look forward to seeing your faces again in worship, and chatting over coffee afterward, and meeting together for committee work or a class, but in the meantime I look forward to "seeing" you in our virtual church space online. May we all have a happier New Year!

Your pastor,

PS - Kay and I would like to thank members of this congregation for the generous gift given to us at Christmas. Thank you very much!

\*Alive, pages 144 & 145

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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.

- Walter Ackerly
- All front line workers
- All those fighting cancer
- All those with anxiety and depression
- Aileen's son
- Alex
- Alyse
- Amstutz's Family on the passing of their father from Alzheimer's
- Ann
- John Arnedt
- Arif after loss of his mother to cancer
- Audrey
- Joyce B.
- Barbara
- Beth
- Beth & Ken
- Bird Family
- Bischoff Family
- Bob
- Bobby
- Family and friends of Rose Braun
- Brianna
- Brittney
- Linda Buehrer
- Roberta Burkhart
- Lorraine Card
- Muriel Card
- Peg Carlson
- Castimore Family on the loss of their daughter Mary Ann
- Sam Castimore
- Chris
- Clara
- Connie
- Corine
- Mary Crowe
- Louise Competielle
- Michelle Dabney
- David
- Dave & Pat
- Debbie & Tom
- Donald
- Donna
- Doug
- John Dudas
- Pastor & Mrs. Dunn
- Carole Edwards
- Elizabeth
- Lorraine Feaser
- Lydia Garcia
- Greg
- Jeanne Gibson with E Coli
- Harry Horodeck
- Roy & Donna Havelin
- Dave Henderson
- Alice Mae Hickey
- Cookie Hocking
- Bobby Howell
- Irene
- Jack
- Jeanne
- Jess
- Jim
- John
- Johnny
- Jolene & John
- Andrew Jorritsma's family after the passing of his mother-in-law
- Justin
- Karen P
- Peacock Family on loss of Brian
- Kate & Mike
- Kayden
- Kevin
- Kolbes Family
- Lars
- Amy, Dave & Josh Langley
- Linda
- Lon
- Frannie G. Long
- Lorraine
- Sharon Lee
- Linda
- Lisa & Rob
- Ludvigsen Family
- Carolyn Messena
- Mikey
- Mike McMillen
- Sherry Moon
- Morgan
- Ruth Morrow
- Moulton Family
- Jackie Moyer
- Gail M.
- Nancy
- Natalie
- Karen P
- Parente Family after the loss of Pete
- Peg & Mary
- The Pettitte Family
- Marilyn Rath
- Ray who lost his daughter
- Ray & Diane
- Rick
- Riley
- Robin & Joe
- Diane Haggerty-Robbins
- Romeo Family
- Ruth
- Toni Schanstra fighting cancer
- Sharon Lee Shaeffer
- Sherry
- Siriwan
- Betsy Spangenberg and her family after the loss of her son JJ.
- Steve
- Springer Family
- Sue
- Suzanne & Jerry
- Thomas
- Tim
- Karen Utter
- Michelle Walker
- Anne McAuliffe's father Fred Wheeler facing surgery for skin cancer
- Ziemann Family
- Prayers that 2021 will be better, safer and kinder to us all



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Do you play a musical instrument or sing? Then we need you to sign-up to participate during the anthem portion of our worship service. If you are willing to help out, please call Kay Hatch at: 973-459-1238 to sign-up to participate. Thank you! - Kay Hatch

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE OVERDUE** - The deadline to submit your 2020 Annual report is ASAP. Please email it to the church office at: [presbsec@ptd.net](mailto:presbsec@ptd.net) or drop it off. Thank you!



**STEWARDSHIP** - Thank you to all those who have turned in their pledge card. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card for 2021 please drop it in the offering plate during our worship or mail it back to us at First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, PO Box 1, Branchville, NJ 07826. Thank you! - Stewardship Committee

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** - For those who use offering envelopes, call Laura in the church office, and she will have them ready for pick up. For those who chose to be assigned a "giving" number rather than using the boxed envelopes, you will continue to use the envelope number that was assigned to you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the church office.



**SPECIAL OIL PRICE** - Bob Price has just negotiated a special oil price from Bonded Oil. The special price will be \$ 1.81 per/gallon. There is a 150 gallon minimum. Payment is to be cash, debit, or credit card. You will not find a lower price. No Promo Deals will be honored. If you are new to Bonded Oil you will have to have your oil tank inspected by Bonded Oil when you schedule your oil delivery. If you currently use Bonded Oil this has already been done.

To receive this price you will need to phone Bonded Oil as the computer order will not reflect this special price. Please call (201) 444-4961. Please say you are part of the Frankford Oil Group. We need to have at least 30 to 40 families to order to receive this type of special price in the future. The price will be \$ 1.81 per/gallon if ordered from January 5, 2021 and January 17, 2021. If you have any problems or questions ask for: Demitrina or Chris.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** will be held via Zoom on Sunday, January 31st, immediately following worship.

Note from Charlotte Lawson:

Dear Friends, I hope this new year will bring good things to all, As you may know, I had the virus in December. It wasn't too bad, a fever maybe 2 days, Still have very little taste or smell. I slept a lot. I am leaving the mid-west on January 12th and will be in Florida until spring with my sister. Our Christmas was very quiet but nice. New Year's was also quiet. Today, of course is football with the Chiefs. Happy New Year!

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY

<b>James Bellush</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>Kathleen Katzenstein</b>	<b>1/16</b>
<b>Debbie Gardner</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>Walter Ackerly</b>	<b>1/18</b>
<b>Virginia Fitch</b>	<b>1/4</b>	<b>Samuel Decker</b>	<b>1/18</b>
<b>Judy Casey</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>Lillian Castimore</b>	<b>1/22</b>
<b>William Leenheer</b>	<b>1/11</b>	<b>Cully Opilla</b>	<b>1/24</b>
<b>Corine Barton</b>	<b>1/12</b>	<b>Patricia Cherny</b>	<b>1/29</b>

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### PASTA FAGIOLI

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups dried cannellini (white kidney) beans, soaked overnight
- 1 Parmesan rind (about 2 ounces), plus shaved Parmesan for serving
- 2 medium carrots, scrubbed, halved crosswise
- 2 stalks celery, halved crosswise
- 1 head garlic, halved crosswise; plus 2 cloves, chopped
- 6 sprigs parsley
- 1 sprig rosemary
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 dried chiles de árbol or 1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes, plus more crushed for serving
- Kosher salt, freshly ground pepper
- 3 tablespoons olive oil, plus more
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 (14.5-ounce) can whole peeled tomatoes
- 3/4 cup dry white wine
- 3 ounces dried lasagna or other flat pasta, broken into 1–1 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/2 small head escarole, leaves torn into 2-inch pieces



#### PREPARATION

1. Bring beans, Parmesan rind, carrots, celery, head of garlic, parsley, rosemary, bay leaves, chiles, and 2 quarts water to a boil in a medium pot. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer, adding more water as needed, until beans are tender, about 1 1/2 hours. Season with salt and pepper, remove from heat, and let sit 30 minutes. Discard vegetables, rind, and herbs.
2. Meanwhile, heat 3 Tbsp. oil in a large pot over medium. Cook onion and chopped garlic, stirring occasionally, until softened, 8–10 minutes. Add tomatoes, crushing with your hands, and cook, stirring often, until liquid is almost completely reduced, 12–15 minutes. Add wine, bring to a boil, and cook until almost completely evaporated, about 5 minutes. Add beans and their liquid; cook until flavors meld, 12–15 minutes. Add pasta; cook, stirring and adding more water as needed, until al dente, 15–20 minutes. Add escarole and cook until wilted, about 1 minute; season with salt and pepper. Serve soup drizzled with oil and topped with Parmesan and more chile. Enjoy!



*Worship Assistants*

**JANUARY**

**LAY READERS**

- 3rd-Mike Osborne
- 10th-Paula Clark
- 17th-Julie Clawson
- 24th-Kathleen Katzenstein
- 31st- Marion Alden

**USHERS**

- 3rd-Buzz Alden
- 10th-Gail Burckes
- 17th-
- 24th-
- 31st-



**JANUARY FLOWER CHART:**

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

Dates:

- 3rd
- 10th
- 17th
- 24th
- 31st

*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, New Jersey  
PO Box 1  
3-5 Wantage Avenue  
Branchville, NJ 07826**

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

**Laura Scherr, Copy Editor**

**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>





# JANUARY 2021



## First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Dec 2020</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></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> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="font-size: small;"> <caption>Feb 2021</caption> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>					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			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							1	2
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