



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church  
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 21, No. 10

OCTOBER 2021

## October AT A GLANCE:

3rd World Communion Sunday



11th Columbus Day-office closed



17th Travelin' for Havelin



24th Congregational Meeting



31st Happy Halloween!



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.

INDEX	Pg
Cover Page	1
Pastor's Page	2
Prayer Concerns	3
Church News	4
Missions/College Care Packages	5
Travelin' for Havelin	6
Food Pantry Donor Update	7
Birthdays/Recipe	8
Information Page	9



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



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



**VOLUME 21, NO. 10**

**OCTOBER 2021**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

## Happy October



October contains a scary holiday. Here are a few corny jokes about it:

- Q. How can you enter a haunted house?  
 A. You use a skeleton key.  
 Q. What is a ghost's favorite ride?  
 A. The roller ghoster.  
 Q. What do you call two witches sharing an apartment?  
 A. Broommates.  
 Q. Why didn't the skeleton go to the prom?  
 A. He had no body to go with.

Okay, that's probably more than enough. 🧡 October is when we get to celebrate some of the spookier, scarier things in life. Often we make fun of them to lighten their effect. Sometimes we put ourselves in situations that give us a scare like watching a horror movie or going to a haunted house where creepy things jump out at us!

This October we return to worship inside, and the very real *monster* of Covid-19 and its Delta variant are actually out there threatening us. 26%+ of cases lately are children, and members of our church have shared with me that they know friends who have died of this disease even after being fully vaccinated. Other members of our church have caught the variant despite being vaccinated, and despite only mild symptoms, have had to quarantine so as not to pass it along to anyone else. We have members with asthma, heart conditions, cancer and more who attend worship, so the Session has decided to err on the side of being overly-cautious to minimize the risks as much as possible.

We begin October 3rd back in the sanctuary for worship, and we've decided that we'll all wear a mask (except those leading worship when speaking) and continue social distancing in the pews. That means a max of 52 in the sanctuary. We are allowed to sing and read responsively, so that means our worship will include all of its regular elements.

And during Coffee Hour, we will go over and meet for it in the Fellowship Hall, but with kids around (who will have had their snack during Sunday School so will be masked during Coffee Hour) we adults will continue to wear our masks there except when drinking our coffee—but you must please do so at a table.

Yes, we're not *fully* back to how we'd like to worship and enjoy fellowship, but let's minimize the risks as much as possible for the sake of the vulnerable. "*As much as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me,*" says our Savior. This is an opportunity to practice caring for and courtesy to our own vulnerable members as training for how we relate to those outside our church, so that we may all have a happy October (and beyond).

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.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aaron &amp; Ethan</li> <li>• Alex &amp; Danielle</li> <li>• Amelia</li> <li>• Amy</li> <li>• The family &amp; friends of Brian Ashley after his passing</li> <li>• Audrey</li> <li>• Ayers Family on the death of Elaine Ayers</li> <li>• Brittney</li> <li>• Linda Buehrer</li> <li>• Joan B. with cancer</li> <li>• Amelia Cain</li> <li>• Ron &amp; Katie Cain</li> <li>• Nancy Clink, recuperating from her stroke</li> <li>• Chick</li> <li>• Corine</li> <li>• Sylvia Dacheson</li> <li>• David</li> <li>• Debbie &amp; Tom</li> <li>• George DeFeo</li> <li>• Ed</li> <li>• Evelyn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carole F.</li> <li>• Linda G.</li> <li>• Gerry &amp; Suzanne</li> <li>• Becky Gibbs</li> <li>• Robert Gandolfo</li> <li>• Grace</li> <li>• Hannah</li> <li>• Ed Hocking after his recent back surgery</li> <li>• Ed Hoskins</li> <li>• Irene</li> <li>• Jack</li> <li>• Jess</li> <li>• John</li> <li>• Jimmy</li> <li>• Joanne who has multiple myeloma cancer</li> <li>• Karen</li> <li>• Bev Keur that she soon fully recovers from her Lyme Disease and Babesia,</li> <li>• Kevin</li> <li>• Chick Krug</li> <li>• Laura and her family in their move</li> <li>• Sharon Lee</li> <li>• Lewis</li> <li>• Linda</li> <li>• Lisa &amp; Rob</li> <li>• Lisa with lung cancer</li> <li>• Sawyer Long</li> <li>• Matt</li> <li>• Mike McMillan's family after his passing</li> <li>• Gail M.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karen M.</li> <li>• Maureen &amp; Frank</li> <li>• Morgan</li> <li>• My friend</li> <li>• Nancy</li> <li>• Natalie</li> <li>• Natasha with cancer</li> <li>• Nikki</li> <li>• Noah</li> <li>• Joyce, O.</li> <li>• Robin &amp; Joe</li> <li>• Pat &amp; Dave</li> <li>• Ray</li> <li>• Ray &amp; Diane</li> <li>• Lori Schneider</li> <li>• Sue</li> <li>• Gabe Titus</li> <li>• Tom &amp; his family</li> <li>• The many victims of Hurricane Ida, as well as those suffering after its passing</li> <li>• John V.</li> <li>• The Witters Family</li> </ul>
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- Baptism of Theodore Hudson Opilla
- Autumn leaves



# Church News

**THANK YOU** - Thank you to Mike & Karen Opilla for graciously hosting worship on their beautiful farm in August. It was a beautiful day enjoyed by all!

**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. Thank You!

**THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE** is pleased to sponsor an outing of music and fun. John Baratta (Andrew Van Varick's and Kay Hatch's organ teacher) will be playing music to accompany the silent movie "Phantom of the Opera" on Sunday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm at St. Monica's R.C. Church located at 33 Unionville Avenue in Sussex NJ. If you are interested, a sign-up sheet will be on a table inside the Fellowship door. We will meet at 2pm at our church to carpool to St. Monica's. Any questions, please see Deb Gardner.



## MEETING REMINDER

**DAISEY ROE CHAIN** - Daisey Roe members will meet Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, at 3pm in the Fellowship Hall for meeting and refreshments - please join us. The agenda is to select a charity of our choice. Our Thrift Shop just had a much needed "face lift" after the storm left puddles of water in the basement. We feel something "good" came from something "bad." Thanks to Kay and Joanne for making a quick phone call which meant professional help was on the way. Special thanks to the crew from Chelbus Cleaning for mopping up and sanitizing.

**NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH** - Pfizer booster doses are now available in New Jersey for 65+ and high-risk individuals. If you are 65 or older, a long-term care resident, an adult with underlying medical conditions, or an adult at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure because of your job, you are now eligible for a Pfizer booster shot, at least six months after your second Pfizer shot. Vaccine appointments can be made at any existing vaccination location without a prescription. The CDC has announced they are evaluating the available data with urgency to make additional recommendations for people who got the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines, as well as for other groups of people.

## PFIZER VACCINE BOOSTER UPDATE

## 4th QUARTER MISSION FAMILY PROMISE OF SUSSEX COUNTY



Since 1997, Family Promise of Sussex County has provided 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 (October–December) 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.

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## COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Fall has arrived, and our young members have already left for college and have already completed a month of studies. The Fellowship Committee would once again like to send out care packages to our young members away at college. We feel this is a vital outreach program to our youth away from home and helps remind them that their church family cares deeply about them and prays that they will be successful in their academics. We will start collecting donations today for our Fall mailing in October. Here are some Care Pack suggestions for you to consider:

***Halloween candy, Halloween decorations, pencils, pens, sticky notes, prepackaged crackers, nuts, granola bars, candy bars, homemade cookies or brownies, individual size cereal boxes, popcorn, Ramen noodles, gum, hot chocolate, potato chips, Cheetos, tic tacs, protein bars, gum, etc.***

You can **also** help by contributing money to assist with the mailing cost to our young college members away at school. Just drop your check in the offering plate and put “Care Packages” in the memo line. Thank you again for your continued support of this ongoing mission project to our young members away at school. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Fellowship Committee.







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

**When: Sunday, October 17th, at 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, at 11:30am at 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 it 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](mailto: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**

***Update from a young man who has made  
it his mission to help his neighbors  
during the pandemic***



***Kindness During Crisis*** PK2020

8-23-2021

Dear Pantries (Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Methodist Church, and Presbyterian Church),

I wanted to update you on my community service project to date. I have collected and delivered a total of **713** bags of items to your pantries since my project began last May. In addition my neighbors and donors have been buying from my backyard chickens *Pat's Fresh Eggs*. I've decided to take the profits from egg selling and use it to purchase more items for the pantries. My neighbors have been very generous. I hope that this is helping many of our needy families in Frankford.

During these unprecedented times, I'm glad to be able to help out. I feel like I'm following the Golden Rule and "Love Thy Neighbor". I will continue to do my collections and bring them to you every 3 weeks for as long as I can.

Thank you,

***Patrick Kelleher***

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY OCTOBER

Amy Langley	10/3	Aimee Nishimura	10/18
Debbie Nussberger	10/4	Ed Nishimura	10/18
Victoria Van Houten	10/5	Makenzi Decker	10/23
Kai Nishimura	10/6	Andrew Dunn	10/23
James Seeger	10/6	Erika Bath	10/26
Aksel McCurdy	10/11	Janine Hlavaty	10/26
David Yaden	10/11	Victoria Palma	10/26
Hannah McAuliffe	10/15	Autumn Smith	10/26
Karen Pawelczyk	10/17	Madison Preste	10/30

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### SLOPPY JOES

#### Ingredients:

2 Tbsp. unsalted butter  
 1 medium onion, diced  
 1 green bell pepper, diced  
 1 clove garlic, minced  
 1 lb. lean ground beef  
 1 1/3 C tomato sauce  
 3/4 C ketchup  
 2 Tbs. brown sugar  
 2 Tbs. Worcestershire sauce  
 1 Tbs. yellow mustard  
 1 Tbs. red wine vinegar  
 1 tsp. smoked paprika  
 Pinch of cayenne pepper  
 Kosher salt & pepper  
 6 hamburger buns, toasted



#### Directions:

Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the onions and peppers and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened and starting to caramelize in some spots, 6 to 7 minutes. Add the garlic and cook, stirring, until fragrant, about 1 minute. Stir in the beef and cook, breaking up the meat with a wooden spoon or spatula, until it is browned, no longer pink in the middle and cooked through, 7 to 8 minutes.

Stir in the tomato sauce, ketchup, brown sugar, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, red wine vinegar, paprika, cayenne pepper, 1 teaspoon salt and a generous amount of black pepper and simmer, stirring occasionally, until thickened and heated through, 5 to 6 minutes. Spoon the meat onto the toasted buns and enjoy!





## LAY READERS

### OCTOBER

3rd—Jim Rawson  
 10th—John Newcomer  
 17th—Joanne Lawson  
 24th—Aimee Nishimura  
 31st—Julie Clawson

### USHERS

Deacon of the Month—Judy Casey

### OCTOBER

3rd—Joanne Lawson & Judy Casey  
 10th—Debbie Gardner & Judy Casey  
 17th—Wende Clausen & Judy Casey  
 24th—Marion & Buzz Alden  
 31st—Trish Cherny & Judy Casey



View our website at:

<http://www.fpcbbranchville.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](mailto:presbsec@ptd.net)  
 or the pastor at [pastorjh@ptd.net](mailto:pastorjh@ptd.net)

View a daily devotion at:

<http://www.d365.org>

## OCTOBER FLOWER CHART:

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

### Dates:

### OCTOBER

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

PO Box 1  
 3-5 Wantage Avenue  
 Branchville, NJ 07826  
 Phone 973-948-3495  
 Fax 973-948-3495





# OCTOBER 2021



## First Presbyterian Church of Branchville

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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3 10:00 AM Worship/World Communion Sunday 	4 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Food Pantry 3:00 PM Music & Worship Meeting 	5	6 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Food Pantry	7 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM Food Pantry	8	9 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Daisey Roe Thrift Shop 																																																																																				
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