



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



First Presbyterian Church  
of Branchville, New Jersey

Volume 26, No. 7/8

July/August 2026

## SUMMER AT A GLANCE:

### JULY

4th—Happy 4th of July  
(Office Closed 7/3)

24th— Movie on the Lawn 8pm

### AUGUST

12th—Daisey Roe Women's Picnic—12pm

23rd—Worship at Opillas' Farm  
& Potluck Lunch



# CHURCH KEY NEWSLETTER



**Our Mission Statement:**

“We Welcome all as we celebrate God’s love.”



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**P.O. BOX 1**  
**3-5 WANTAGE AVE.**  
**BRANCHVILLE, NJ 07826**



VOLUME 26, NO. 7/8

JULY/AUGUST 2026

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## VBS WORD SEARCH

B I B L E T G A N G  
 R S A I N T M R C E  
 A P R A Y H E O O S  
 Y U M A R Y R D D U  
 A C H U R C H O S S  
 M O A G O D L N U A  
 E C A J E S U S S M  
 N R O S S C I B A A  
 K A N G E L P R T R  
 T Q W E R T Y U I O



- GOD
- MARY
- AMEN
- JESUS
- PRAY
- CHURCH
- BIBLE
- ANGEL
- CROSS
- SAINT

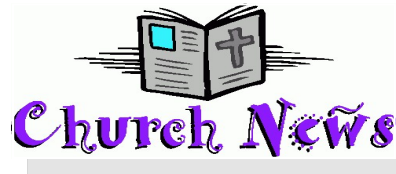


VBS will be held at Frankford Plains UMC 8/10-8/14 at 9:30am. Please get the WORD out to our kids in the community to come and attend this very fun week!



*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
- Amy & Children
- Barbara recovering from a stroke & waiting test results
- Barbara Z.
- Betty McMickle
- Bobby & Amy
- Bode
- Carlos
- Carol
- Cheryl Glimman on loss of Son
- Debbie Sewell with broken leg
- Donna
- Edie
- Elaine Hocking awaiting test results
- Esmeralda
- Eva
- Family & Friends of Reggie Hockings on his passing
- Garrett
- Joyce Owen
- Joyce, Amy & Molly fighting cancer
- Julie & Pat
- Karen
- Kevin
- Kleinert Baby
- Lisa Huges
- Lynn
- Max - Haggerty's dog passing
- Michael
- Michele
- Michelle Dabney
- Patty
- Rita P.
- Robyn
- Roger Gibbins
- Ron & Katie
- Ryan
- Sal
- Susan
- Tom, John, Brenda & Family
- Trish Cherny
- Wendy



**MANNA HOUSE \$5 SPAGHETTI DINNER** — Indoor dining or take-out, First Presbyterian Church, 54 High St., Newton (Church Street Entrance), July 14th & August 11th 5:00 to 6:30pm. Adults \$5.00, Children 5-12 \$3.00, and under 5 Free. (Included are Spaghetti, Salad, Bread, Cookies)

**THE FOOD PANTRY** is in need of Mayo. Please consider donating to this continuous need in our community. Open Weds 10am—12pm. Thank you to our church congregation for your generous support of Jean’s Pantry. Your kindness truly makes a difference.



**THRIFT SHOP** — Please continue to donate your CLEAN/REUSABLE items to the shop. Sorry, but we can NOT accept electronics, textbooks, or manuals. Opened Saturday’s 9am—1pm.

**DAISEY ROE ANNUAL PICNIC** — August 12th at noon for annual picnic. Bring a covered dish or your favorite dessert to share. Agenda will be the September Flea Market, Yard Sale & Thrift Shop. Location and more info to follow.



**3RD QUARTER MISSIONS** — It’s hard to imagine but we are already starting our 3rd Quarter Mission project!! This is one we have supported for a number of years- because Presbyterians support public education! It is DonorsChoose, a website where teachers post requests for classroom resources. This helps offset the money that teachers spend out of pocket each year to give their students the best classroom experience that they can. We will be collecting your donations to add to the budget and will select our educational projects at the end of September. We’ll be sure to let you know where the money went!!

**SPECIAL WORSHIP AT WILLOW BROOK FARM** — Please join us as we worship outside at the Opillas’ Farm located at Willow Brook Farm, 138 Wykertown Road in Branchville, Sunday, August 23rd at 10am with a potluck luncheon afterwards. Please bring a chair and your favorite dish. We hope you will join us for a day of faith, food, & fellowship on the farm!





### **HELP WANTED:**

- First, our Dimitri is going off to Rutgers in September (Congratulations!) and we need a person to manage the audio and streaming for Sunday services. The pay is \$25 per Sunday. If you know anyone who would like to earn \$25 for an hour's work on Sundays, please let Mike Lutz know.
- Second - and this is exciting! - Session has approved the hiring of 2 paid nursery attendants. Session has determined that, in order to attract young families to church, a regularly staffed nursery is critical. We are targeting September for kicking off the staffing. Session understands that it will likely take months for young families to appear and start taking advantage of the nursery, but if we don't get started it will never happen. We need two people at least 18 years old. The pay is \$50 per person per Sunday. They will have to pass a background check and take online safety training. If you know anyone who would be interested, please let Mike Lutz know.



**SUMMER COFFEE/REFRESHMENTS** — Volunteers are needed to run the coffee hour on Sundays through the months of July and August following worship in the Fellowship Hall. Please see the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Your assistance during the summer months will be greatly appreciated.

**12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHANGING THE FACE OF ADDICTION WALK** Thorlabs will be sponsoring the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual "Changing the Face of Addiction" walk on Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 9am – 12pm. This is a family friendly event at Franklin Firemen's Pavilion, 46 High Street, Franklin, NJ. To donate or register to walk please visit [recoverywalk.org](http://recoverywalk.org). Together we can save lives!



## SUMMER MUSIC

There will be no weekly Choir practice during our summer break. However...anyone who would like to sing a hymn or play an instrumental piece during a summer service would be greatly appreciated! Simply speak to Dawn, or our organist John and they will be glad to meet with you at 9:30 am on a Sunday morning to go over your selection (or help you find one!). Thank you in advance!



## FALL FLEA MARKET

Fall is just around the corner. The First Presbyterian Church of Branchville and the Daisey Roe Chain are planning their 29th Annual Fall Flea Market including the thrift shop on Saturday September 12, 2026, from 9 am to 3 pm. Our group will be renting tables indoors/outdoors for \$20.00 each. Inclement weather - space is limited to 25 indoors - first come first served. Good weather – space is limited to 32 tables indoors and outdoors. We do the advertising and provide tables for indoor / outdoor, rain or shine. Daisey Roe keeps spaces for our church members who are interested in renting a table. Please send in your check by August 25, 2026, to reserve your space.

Co-Chairwomen: Marion Alden and Beverly Keur  
Checks payable to: Daisey Roe Chain and mail to:  
Marion Alden, 170 Culver View Lane, Branchville  
NJ 07826. Contact Branchville Presbyterian Church  
973-948-3495.



## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

- ♦ Family Movie Night — Come join us for Movie on the lawn “The Prince of Egypt”, July 24th, 8pm Movie Start.
- ♦ Oktoberfest— The Fellowship Committee is planning to hold an Oktoberfest gathering on October 16th starting at 5:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers to help out with food, decorations, and entertainment. There will be a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up and indicate which area you would be interested in helping with. Your assistance is appreciated!



## JUNE SESSION MEETING HIGHLIGHTS 6/8)

- There will be nursery care available during worship this summer. We will evaluate the program at the end of the summer and make a decision regarding its continuation.
- We will be creating an account with “Advertiser News” for increasing the church’s visibility in the community.
- We will be printing and distributing “First Presbyterian Church of Branchville” Lawn signs.
- We will host an Oktoberfest celebration on October 16.
- We will host an outdoor movie night on July 24.
- There will be a church cleanup/work weekend on June 14-15. Food will be provided!
- We are beginning the work on installing a new air conditioning and heating system in the sanctuary.
- Shelter Box is our 4th Qtr. Mission
- The sanctuary’s slate roof needs repair. We are reaching out to tradesmen to assess the situation.





## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CORNER

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

- \* VBS will be held at Frankford Plains UMC on 8/10-8/14 at 9:30am. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up in FH and Kim from Frankford Plains will get in touch with you. Please get the word out to our kids in the community to come and attend this very fun week!
- \* The Nursery: We are working on staffing the nursery with volunteers for the Summer and will have paid staff starting in September in the hope of having young families come to our church so that we will be able to continue to worship in the future.
- \* Rally day will be on Sept. 13th. Please mark your calendars! We are in need of teachers and assistants for the Fall! No experience required! Please sign up in FH. Our "small but mighty" SS appreciates it and thanks you!
- \* Our next CE meeting will be Tues., 8/4 at 3:30.

### ADULT EDUCATION

- \* Our Bible Study and Discovery and Discussion group will be on vacation for the Summer...Stay tuned.

# HAPPY SUMMER BIRTHDAY

Sandra Carlisle	7/5	Nancy Young	8/7
Anne McAuliffe	7/6	Paula Clark	8/8
Harrison Cardinale	7/9	James Swistack	8/15
Cassidy Preste	7/16	Bud Gardner	8/16
John Preste	7/17	Karen Cummins	8/16
Kelly Gore	7/20	Junko Nishimura	8/18
Corbin Opilla	7/21	Austin Willis	8/20
Art Buehrer	7/22	Carol Vealey	8/21
Corie Hlavaty	7/25	Adrienne Poissant	8/23
Lauren Cardinale	7/26	Sandy Harrison	8/25
Alexis Legon	8/1	Julian Carlisle	8/30
Buzz Alden	8/7		

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

### SUMMER SALAD

#### INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups mixed greens
- 1/4 cup cucumbers, sliced thick and halved
- 1/4 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 2 tablespoons white onions, diced
- 2 tablespoons dried cranberries
- 2 tablespoons walnut halves
- 1/4 cup reduced fat feta cheese
- 2-4 tablespoons olive oil
- Balsamic vinegar or glaze



#### PREPARATION

1. Combine all ingredients into a large bowl.
2. Drizzle olive oil and balsamic vinegar or glaze.
3. Toss together, serve.

# Ushers/Lay Readers

## July

### USHERS

5th – John Newcomer/Nancy Clink  
 12th – Lois Kinney/Nancy Lange  
 19th – Pat Leenheer/John Newcomer  
 26th – OPEN/OPEN

### LAY READERS

5th – Linda Osborne  
 12th – OPEN  
 19th – OPEN  
 26th – OPEN

## August

### USHERS

2nd – Susan Martin/OPEN  
 9th – OPEN/OPEN  
 16th – OPEN/OPEN  
 23rd – OPEN/OPEN  
 30th – Lois Kinney/OPEN

### LAY READERS

2nd – OPEN  
 9th – OPEN  
 16th – OPEN  
 23rd – OPEN  
 30th – OPEN

First Presbyterian Church of Branchville  
 PO Box 1, 3-5 Wantage Avenue  
 Branchville, NJ 07826  
 Phone 973-948-3495

View our website at:  
<http://www.fpcbranchville.org>

and Facebook at:  
<http://www.facebook.com>

and Instagram at:  
<http://instagram.com/fpcbranchville/>

You may e-mail  
 the secretary at [presbsec@ptd.net](mailto:presbsec@ptd.net)



## JULY/AUGUST COFFEE HOUR

Volunteer's Needed/Sign-up Sheet in Fellowship Hall

## SUMMER FLOWER CHART:

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

JULY	AUGUST
5th	2nd
12th	9th
19th	16th
26th	23rd
	30th

*Call Lisa the week before your signup to have flowers delivered. Gail Burckes will contact you for your dedication or memorial.*

**Flowers By Lisa 862-268-3123**





# JULY 2026





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																												
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# AUGUST 2026



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