

Frenchtown Presbyterian Church

908-996-2227

Email: office@frenchtownpres.org

Website: www.frenchtownpres.org

Worship Services

8:00 A.M. with Communion & 10:00 A.M. with Kid's Communities

Session (Elders)

Buildings and Grounds

John Fiebig 908-996-6436

Paul Pfisterer (chair) 610-294-9412

Christian Education

Tonya Reese (chair) 908-310-9240

Worship & Music

Gayla Gerhardt 908-310-0702

Clerk of Session

Ron Hartpence 908-246-7189

Mission and Outreach

Maureen Breiner(chair)908-995-4173

Bill Penyak 908-625-6575

Barbara Huey 908-268-3063

Stewardship

Leslie Callanan 908-310-9412

Con McCarthy 215-534-9248

Diane Reed 215-290-6615

Board of Deacons

Ken Gerhardt 908-310-1884 Deborah Hill 908-507-8803

Deborah Fiebig 908-996-6436 Steve Moninghoff 201-919-0597

Dave Griffith 908-693-0405 Debbie Godown 908-859-4038

Jen Griffith 908-625-2943

Tiffany Hamilton 267-245-4452 Maddie Hendrix

Jen Giera 908-328-1683

Corporation Vice-President – Tonya Reese 908-310-9240

Church Staff

Transitional Pastor

Nancy Asbury 908-996-2227

pastor@frenchtownpres.org

Church Secretary

Lea Raymond 908-996-2227

office@frenchtownpres.org

Treasurer

Sue Fitchett 908-996-2227

Food Pantry

Helen Lewis 610-294-9623

Youth Pastor

Robert Ross 609-571-8012

rob@frenchtownpres.org

Financial Secretary

Christine Aherne 908-996-2227

office@frenchtownpres.org

Choir Director/Organist

Joshua Wilson 610-393-8670

pianomanjosh117@gmail.com



Frenchtown Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019 10 a.m. Worship

If you are visiting, please sign the guest book at the back of the church.

If you are a first time visitor, we have a small welcome gift for you. Please let an usher or the Pastor know you are here.

We Gather as the Community of Faith

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hope is gravity for the broken—

Pulling us up.

Hope is manna in the wilderness

When we want to give up.

Hope is seeing stars in the city

When we forget the sky is there.

Hope is the anthem of faith

And the reason we're here.

So come to this place with your hopes and your fears,

For the God of new life is drawing near.

Let us worship Holy God.

Hymn #88 (vss. 1, 5)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

I will wait . . .

. . . So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and as a prayer that we might stop waiting and start living, stop watching and start moving.

**May the light of this candle burn inside us this week—
inspiring hope and action for God's promised day. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Gracious God, you paint a picture of a better world— a world of peace and joy, of equality and grace. But we turn our heads and close our eyes, afraid that you might want us to help.

You ask us to be brave, and we are complacent. You ask us to speak out, but instead we stay quiet. You ask us to listen, and we assume we are the experts. You lead with love, and we wait on the sidelines.

Forgive us for always being ten steps behind you. Forgive us for all the ways we are works in progress. Fill our hearts with a hope that won't let go.

Gratefully we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Friends in Christ let the past now be the past. Seize this precious moment. We are a forgiven community, a family of hope rooted in God-deep optimism. We are the most fortunate of people.

Thanks be to God.

*PASSING THE PEACE

Those who place their faith in the Lord are blessed. Let us share this blessing with those around us as we pass the peace of Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

All exchange signs and words of God's peace.

RESPONSE: Hymn 113 Angels We Have Heard on High (refrain)

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

TIME WITH CHILDREN

We Listen for God's Word to Us

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and hear what you have to say to us with all our mind and spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5

ANTHEM

HEBREW SCRIPTURE Psalm 122

MESSAGE

We Respond to God's Call

* HYMN #158 (vss.1,2,4) *Born in the Night, Mary's Child*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY (*Hymn 108*) *Of the Father's Love Begotten (verse 6)*

**Christ, to thee with God the Father,
and O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be.
Honor glory and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF OFFERING AND PLEDGES

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*unison*)

Living God, thank you for feeding us at this table. As we go, keep us close to you, trusting in your love, and bearing the good news of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

We Go Out into God's World

* HYMN #82 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prayer by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

PRAYER REQUESTS Please continue to pray for those on the prayer request list. If you would like to receive the prayer list by email or if you have any prayer requests please contact Ken Gerhardt 908-310-1884 or email him at kennyg12@ptd.net

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Christmas Pageant

Come out and support the youth of Frenchtown Presbyterian Church on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in their annual Christmas Pageant. Karina, Josh, and the actors/actresses having been preparing to fill your hearts with the Christmas Spirit and bring you joy this holiday season. Contact Karina Fengler at kfengler379@gmail.com if you would like to participate or if you have any questions.

Presbyterian Women's Christmas Cookie Sale

The PW will be holding a Christmas cookie sale on Sunday, December 15th. Cookies will go on sale beginning at 8:30 am.

Cookies Needed

The Presbyterian Women are asking for homemade cookie donations for their Christmas cookie sale. All homemade cookies need to be brought to the church on Friday, December 13th by 9:30am.

Thank you

Thank you from PW

The Presbyterian Women would like to thank all those who donated items, made things, made cakes, pies, cookies, jellies and jams. Those who helped with set up and clean up. And to all those who purchased things from our annual Christmas Sale. Because of everyone's generosity we raised approximately \$2700.00. All of which will be shared with our church and our community.

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

I Corinthians 12:27

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a body of believers in Jesus Christ the Lord that strives to be a living reflection of God's love. We come together to confirm our individual faith while spreading the message of hope and love by serving those in need through mission and outreach.

NEWS AND EVENTS

EVENTS DURING THE WEEK – December 2-8

Monday

Low Impact Aerobics, 11:15-12:30

Deacon meeting, 7pm

Tuesday

AA meeting, 6:30am

Senior Program, 11:30am

Boy Scouts, 7:30pm

AA meeting, 8pm

Wednesday

Bible Study, 9am

Low Impact Senior Aerobics, 9:15-10:30, 11-12pm

Women's AA Meeting, 9:30 am in Memorial Parlor

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Thursday

AA Meeting 6:30am

Senior Yoga, 9:15-10:30

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30pm

Friday

Alanon meeting 12-1pm

Saturday

Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 8:30am

AA Meeting 7pm

PW Christmas Party, 1pm

Next Sunday

Cookie Sale

Angel Tree Gifts

Once again, the Deacons will be sponsoring the Angel Tree to provide Christmas gifts for the children and grandchildren of our Food Pantry families and assist the Holiday Fund. The Holiday Fund is sponsored by the Frenchtown Lions Club and Frenchtown American Legion and provides holiday gifts to over 100 children and their families, in Frenchtown and surrounding communities.

The Christmas tree in the Rotunda will have tags that will have information about the child and a wish list, as well as wrapping instructions and other information, the Sunday after Thanksgiving. When choosing a tag, don't forget to enter your name, telephone

number and email address for the tag number you are taking on the signup sheets – there are sheets for the Food Pantry and Holiday Fund tags. The gifts must be at the church by Sunday, December 15th, with the gift tags attached to the gift – drop off boxes will be in the Rotunda. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Kacerek Cooley at 973.271.7094 or by email dkacerekcooley@gmail.com



Time to Order flowers

It's time to order Poinsettia plants for Christmastime. In honor of, or in memory of those you love. Red or White plants are available for \$8.00 per plant. Order forms available at the back of the sanctuary. Please have orders in by **next Sunday, December 8th** to Margaret Pfisterer 610-294-9412.

Presbyterian Women Christmas Party

Come and Join Us

The Presbyterian Women would like to invite ALL the women of the church to join us at our Annual Christmas Party. Saturday, December 7, 2018 at 1:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share. RSVP Gayla Gerhardt 908-310-0702 or Marie Johnson at 908-996-3561.

Advent Wreath

Advent Wreath making workshop following the Church service TODAY. Greenery and beeswax will be provided.

Christmas Caroling

The Christian Education Commission would like to invite you to a night of Caroling on Sunday, December 22, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. We will provide cookies and hot chocolate for all who participate and are excited to spread our holiday cheer throughout the community. We hope you can join us. If you have any questions or want more information please contact Tonya Reese, Kristyn Eckert, or Rob Ross.

New Beginnings

We're off to a great start! Thanks to all of you who participated in our conversations last week. Come join in a second congregation-wide conversation: today, **December 1, from 11:30 – 12:30.** Learn about the characteristics of vital churches, receive a copy of the assessment report, learn how it will be used, and sign-up for small group meetings if haven't already done so. Your participation is key to the future of God's mission and ministry here at FPC.