

# Frenchtown Presbyterian Church

908-996-2227

Email: [office@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:office@frenchtownpres.org)

Website: [www.frenchtownpres.org](http://www.frenchtownpres.org)

## Worship Services

8:00 A.M. with Communion & 10:00 A.M.

### Session (Elders)

#### Building and Grounds

Ed Marston 215-297-8208

Eugene Hill 908-996-3037

#### Christian Education

Michelle Hendrix 908-995-4967

Lynn Freeman 267-784-2152

#### Community Life

Leslie Callanan 908-310-9412

David Fleck 973-903-4536

#### Mission and Outreach

Barbara Huey 908-268-3063

#### Stewardship

Kevin Smith 610-982-0138

Harry Cooley 908-313-6405

#### Worship

Diane Reed 610-294-6673

Gayla Gerhardt 908-310-0702

#### Clerk of Session

Yoama Pons 610-217-0913

### Board of Deacons

#### Benevolence

Deborah Cooley 908-995-7770

#### Short-Term illness

Sharon Beck 908-752-3822

Dave Griffith 908-693-0405

Jen Griffith 908-625-2943

#### Hospitality

Joyce Hartpence 908-246-0058

Deborah Cooley 908-995-7770

Debbie Godown 908-859-4038

#### Shut-ins and Long-Term illness

Deborah Hill 908-507-8803

Deborah Fiebig 908-996-6436

#### Bereavement

Debbie Godown 908-859-4038

Jennifer Cwynar 908-334-1826

#### Youth Connection

Madelyn Freeman

#### Events

Dave Griffith 908-693-0405

### Church Staff

#### Pastor

Rev. Courtney Cromie 561-703-2263

[pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org)

#### Church Secretary

Lea Raymond 908-996-2227

[office@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:office@frenchtownpres.org)

#### Treasurer

Sue Fitchett 908-996-2227

#### Organist

Josh Wilson 610-393-8670

#### Youth Pastor

Robert Ross 609-571-8012

[rob@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:rob@frenchtownpres.org)

#### Financial Secretary

Christine Aherne 908-996-2227

#### Choir Director

Kathy Hartman 484-226-0017



## FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 24, 2017

Christmas Eve/Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!*

### 8:00 A.M. Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Advent Wreath Lighting – Light of Peace

Passing of the Peace

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10, Luke 2:12-17

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon “There is the Light of Joy in the Darkness of Anxiety”

Offering

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

The Lord’s Supper

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

Carol# 122 vs 1-3

“Silent Night”

Charge and Blessing

### 10:00 A.M. Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

The Lord be with you.....and also with you!

Introit

### **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship

Leader: The Child of light comes to us and seeks to enter our lives.

People: Child of Mary, help us to welcome you.

Leader: The Christ Child comes to us to bring love into an aching world.

People: Child of Joseph, may we love you as you love us.

Leader: Our Lord comes to us where we are and no matter what we do.  
People: Child of the Shepherds, help us to realize that you are always near.  
Leader: In Christ, you show us a different way of living and giving.  
People: Child of the magi, help us follow your light and to give as you give.  
Leader: God of mercy and tenderness, you gave us this newborn babe so that all creation would sing of your praises now and forever  
All: Come let us Worship the Newborn Child of Peace

\*Carol #133 vs 1&3 "O Come All Ye Faithful"  
Advent Wreath Lighting – Light of Peace  
Prayer of Confession

Dear God, on Christmas you brought light into darkness and showed us how to love and serve you and one another. We know you long for us to work for peace and yet too often we choose war. Throughout our days, we turn from you and you never turn from us. You sent prophets to foretell of a more excellent way and still we ignore their words. We come to you now, with the heavenly choirs of angels and archangels and with prophets and disciples, to join with your people from every time and place. We ask you to help us so that all may lift their hearts in joyful praise this morning and every morning. Forgive us through the one who was born this day, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon  
Carol #266 vs 3 "Joy to The World"  
Children's Message  
(Children may leave for Kid's communities, Youth may leave for Echo)  
Passing the Peace Hymn #591 "Halle, Halle!"  
The peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!** (Please pass the peace of Christ.)

### God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture Reading Isaiah 52:7-10  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**  
Special Music

Scripture Reading Luke 2:12-17  
Sermon "There is the Light of Joy in the Darkness of Anxiety"

### God Calls Us to Respond

\*Hymn #124 "Peace, Peace"  
Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer  
Gifts of the People  
Offertory  
Doxology\* "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
Prayer of Dedication

### God Sends Us Out to Reflect His Love

\*Carol #119 vs 1& 4 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"  
The Light of the Christ Candle  
\*Carol #122 vs 1-3 "Silent Night"  
Charge and Blessing  
Choral Benediction  
Postlude

*\*please stand if able*

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### Book Club

Book club will meet Monday January 8<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm downstairs of the church. The book they will be discussing is "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand. For more info or questions, contact Kristyn Eckert at [kristyneckert@gmail.com](mailto:kristyneckert@gmail.com).

### Save the Date – Hope and Healing Service

**January 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm** we invite you to experience a meditative worship service that takes time for remembering and sharing our hurting places with God. A *Service of Hope & Healing* is a service of scripture, music, and healing prayer. During the service there will be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one, in support of someone who is hurting or simple for our own healing.

## 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 24**

#### Monday

No Men's Group, 7pm in the Memorial Parlor

#### Tuesday

AA Meeting 6:30am

#### Wednesday

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Bible Study, 9am

#### Thursday

AA Meeting 6:30am

#### Saturday

Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 8:30am

AA Meeting 7pm

#### Friday

Food Pantry open, 10am

#### Saturday

Open House at the Manse, 4-9pm

#### December 25-January 1<sup>st</sup>

Church office will be closed

**DEACON OF THE MONTH** - Please contact the Deacon of the month **Dave Griffith at 908-693-0405** if you or someone you know is in the hospital or needs other assistance from the Deacons.

### **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](mailto:kennyg12@ptd.net)

### Christmas Eve Services

**5:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Service** is for the young and the young at heart. This is a wonderful time for children, families, and adults to worship together at a casual, family-friendly service for all ages. There will be a Christmas story, Bible readings, carols, live nativity, and the opportunity to celebrate the Birth of Jesus together. Let us enjoy the holiness and excitement of the Christ child's arrival early in the evening.

**8:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** is a traditional service. We will sing carols, listen to choral offerings, hear scripture readings, a sermon, and light candles to celebrate Christ's birth.

*\*Childcare is not provided at the 8:00 PM service*

**11:00 PM Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Service** is a traditional worship service. We will sing carols, listen to choral offerings, hear scripture readings and a sermon, partake of Holy Communion, and light candles to celebrate Christ's birth.

*\*Childcare is not provided at the 11:00 PM Service*

### Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup>, New Year's Eve

There will be one worship service on New Year's Eve at 10am.

### Church Office

The church office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year, we will reopen on January 2nd.

### Food Pantry

Due to the holidays falling on Monday's this year, the pantry will be closed Monday December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>. Pantry will be open on a special day Friday December 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am-11am. January 8<sup>th</sup> will resume pantry times of Monday from 10am-11am. Please consider donating a non-perishable food item in bin located in Fellowship Hall or there are colored envelopes in pew benches for monetary donations.

### End of the Year donations

The end of the year is approaching quickly. Please make sure all donations intended for 2017 be received by December 31, 2017. All donations after that date will be credited to 2018- No Exceptions. Please contact the church office at 908-996-2227 if you have any questions.

### Open House at the Manse

There will be an "Open House @ Pastor Courtney's House" on Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, from 4 - 9 PM. Everyone is invited to come and go as they please to visit with members and friends of Frenchtown Presbyterian Church and enjoy some appetizers, snacks, desserts, and a hot meal. All ages are invited!

### Weekly Bible Study

Each Wednesday at 9 am our Bible Study group meets downstairs and studies one or more Bible passages for the coming Sunday. Bible Study **will be meeting** December 27<sup>th</sup> & January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bible Study is co-led by Glenn Horvath and Pastor Courtney. All are welcome!

### Senior Lunch and Learn Program

The Senior lunch and learn program held Wednesday's at the church, will be a **Potluck Luncheon Wednesday January 2nd** at the Manse from 11:30am-2pm. Please contact Pastor Courtney at 561-703-2263 if you have any questions.