

# 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

Eugene Hill 908-996-3037

#### Christian Education

Michelle Hendrix 908-995-4967

Lynn Freeman 267-784-2152

#### Community Life

Leslie Callanan 908-310-9412

#### 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

Ron Hartpence 908-246-7189

#### Short-Term illness

Ron Hartpence 908-246-7189

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

#### Food Pantry

Helen Lewis 610-294-9623

#### Youth Pastor

Robert Ross 609-571-8012

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

#### Financial Secretary

Christine Aherne 908-996-2227

#### Choir Director/Organist

Joshua Wilson 610-393-8670

[pianomanjosh117@gmail.com](mailto:pianomanjosh117@gmail.com)



## FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 25, 2018

The Second Sunday of Lent

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

### 8:00 A.M. Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

**All: Let us worship God!**

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn #353

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

Passing of the Peace

Lenten Reading: Out of My Blind Spot – A Poem for Lent by  
Bridget Bearss

Scripture Reading Isaiah 55:1-3a, 6-11; Luke 15:11-32  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon “O Will Always Love You – The Story of  
a Father and his Son”

Offering

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

The Lord’s Supper

Charge and Blessing

### 10:00 A.M. Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

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

Choral Introit

**God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship (Adapted from Psalm 103:1-5)

Leader: Bless the Lord!

**People: Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name!**

Leader: Bless the Lord!

**People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his  
benefits,**

Leader: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

**People: who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

**All: Let us Worship God!**

\*Praise Band

“Here We Are”

Responsive Prayer of Confession-Psalm 57 (Hymnal p. 805)

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me, for in you my soul takes refuge.

**People: I will take refuge in the shadow of your wings until the disaster has passed.**

Leader: I cry out to God Most High, to God, who fulfills his purpose for me.

**People: He sends from heaven and saves me, rebuking those who hotly pursue me; God sends his love and his faithfulness.**

Leader: I am in the midst of lions; I lie among ravenous beasts—men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.

**People: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.**

Leader: They spread a net for my feet—I was bowed down in distress. They dug a pit in my path—but they have fallen into it themselves.

**People: My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music.**

Leader: Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

**People: I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.**

Leader: For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

**All: Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.**

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Message(children leave for Kid's Communities/Youth to Echo)

Passing the Peace Hymn #591

“Halle, Halle!”

The peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

Lenten Reading: Out of My Blind Spot – A Poem for Lent by  
Bridget Bearss

## God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Old Testament Scripture

Isaiah 55:1-3a, 6-11

Choral Anthem

New Testament Scripture

Luke 15:11-32

Sermon “I Will Always Love You – The Story of a Father and his Son”

\*Praise Band

“Forever”

Affirmation of Faith “Lenten Creed” — from Traveling to Easter with Jesus as our Guide from Patmos Abbey

We believe that our lives are held within the encircling love of God, who knows our names and recognizes our deepest needs. We believe that Christ is the divine Child of the living God, and that his grace is like living waters that can never be exhausted. We believe in the birthing, renewing, enabling Spirit of God who yearns over our welfare as a mother yearns for her child.

We believe that God is in the arid desert as well as in green pastures, and that hard times and disciplines are also loving gifts. We believe that our journey has a purpose and a destination, and that our path leads to a human glory we cannot yet imagine. We believe that in the church we are fellow pilgrims on the road, and that we are called to love one another as God loves us. This is our faith and we are humbled to profess in Jesus the Christ. Amen

## God Calls Us to Respond

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

\*Hymn #829 vs. 1,2,4

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

Charge and Blessing

Choral Benediction

Postlude

*\*please stand if able*

### Women's Bible Study

A 10-week study, Thursdays from 10am-11:30am at the manse. The study: *A Woman's Heart-God's Dwelling Place*: A Beth Moore study based on the Old Testament tabernacle to explore the places God dwells- Study Book \$16 (scholarships available)

For more information or questions please contact Pastor Courtney, [pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org) or by calling the church office @ 908-996-2227. This study provides bible study experience five days a week plus a time for a video sessions of this in-depth women's Bible study. Come join us as we learn more about God and about ourselves! All Women are Welcome!

### Concert

**Star 99.1 Presents MercyMe, concert**, Sunday, March 11, 2018 at the Prudential Center, Newark NJ from 7:30pm - 11:00pm

If anyone is interested in attending this event, please contact Jennifer Griffith at 908-625-2943/[jenpec1@comcast.net](mailto:jenpec1@comcast.net). If there is enough interested to attend the concert we will get group discount ticket prices.

### Book Club

Come join us at the next Book Club, Monday, March 12th 7-9pm. Downstairs of the church. Light refreshments will be provided. The Book is *"Before We Were Yours"* by Lisa Wingate. Contact Kristyn Eckert at 973-534-9155 or the church office if you have any questions. **All are welcome!**

### Free Tax Prep Services

FPC is hosting United Way free tax preparation. Dates scheduled are, March 20th & April 10th. Appointments are needed.

Please dial 2-1-1 ext 27 to schedule an appointment.

Hosted by Frenchtown Community Services and Outreach Group.

### 2018 Pledges

Annual Pledge Budget \$120,000.00

January Pledge Budget \$10,000

January Pledge received \$7240.00

## 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 – Feb.26-March 3**

#### Today

Youth Group Snow Tubing, 10am

#### Monday

Men's Group, 7pm in the Memorial Parlor

Bible Study, 6:30pm-8pm

#### Tuesday

AA Meeting 6:30am

Mom and Me Music Program, 10:45-11:30am

Senior Lunch and Learn 11:30am

Homework Help in Fellowship Hall, 3-5pm

#### Wednesday

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Bible Study, 9am

Ash Wednesday morning communion service, 7am

#### Thursday

AA Meeting 6:30am

Women's bible study, 10am-11:30am

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30p-9pm

#### Saturday

Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 8:30am

AA Meeting 7pm

#### Next Sunday

Youth Group Sponsored Free Pancake breakfast, 8-12am

**DEACON OF THE MONTH** - Please contact the Deacon of the month **Debbie Kacerek-Cooley**, at 908-995-7770, if you or someone you know is in the hospital or needs other assistance from the Deacons.

\*Child Care is available during the 10:00 am service for infants and young children. The nursery is located in room #5 down the back stairs and to the right.

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### **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

### **Morning Lenten Service**

Wednesday Morning Lenten Communion Services, 7:00 – 7:20 AM through Wednesday, March 28. The services will be twenty minutes and length with communion, a small reflection, prayer, and scripture. Use these services to keep your mind and your heart focused on a need for God and for forgiveness during the holy season of Lent.



### **Easter Flowers**

Time to order flowers for the Sanctuary for Easter. Flowers available for order are tulips at \$6.00 per plant and daffodils, daisy mums and lilies at \$8.00 per plant. Additional order forms available at the back of the church. Contact Margaret Pfisterer if you have any questions at 610-294-9412.

### **Nominating Committee**

Nominations are being accepted for the position of elder and deacon. Have you been called to serve God in a leadership role? Are you concerned about Frenchtown Presbyterian and its ministries? Do you want to help those in need? Or do you know someone who would be a good leader? You can nominate someone as well. If you are willing or know someone who is willing, let our church office know, or Pastor Courtney.

### **Pavers for the Front Walkway**

Are you looking for a great way to honor the life of a family member or a special someone this Easter? If so.... consider giving a paver in honor or in memory of your loved one. Pavers will be installed in the front walk-way of the church with the name. Cost is \$99.00. Any questions please contact Bill Penyak at 908-625-6575 or the church office at 908-996-2227/office@frenchtownpres.org.

### **Community Pancake Breakfast**

**Free Pancake Breakfast, next Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 8am-12pm.**

Help Needed! Cooks, Servers, Dishwashers & Hospitality Hosts Needed! Come celebrate National Pancake Day with us! Contact Robert Ross if you can help. 609-571-8012.

### **Kid's Communities/Youth Group Mission Project**

Our Kids Communities and Youth Group are doing a combined mission/service project. Together we will be making "Blessing Bags" and the Youth Group will be distributing them locally. These bags will be filled with items needed by homeless individuals. We are asking for your help. We are asking for donations or monetary donations to help purchase the items. One complete blessing bag costs \$15. Flyers are located at the back of the church with a listing of items needed. All donations need to be in by TODAY. All children/youth are invited to stay after the church service next week, March 4<sup>th</sup> to assemble the bags and the Youth Group will distribute them on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Kid's Communities - One Great Hour of Sharing**

Our church will collect for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), a special offering of PC(USA), on Palm Sunday and Easter. Fish banks will be distributed this Sunday for the kids to collect loose change over the next few weeks as part of the OGHS offering. A gift to OGHS enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. **Please return fish banks to church on Palm Sunday or Easter.** Thank you!