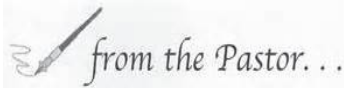


# FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CROSSTALK



FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 PO BOX 114, FOURTH STREET  
 FRENCHTOWN, NJ 08825  
 908-996-2227, WWW.FRENCHTOWNPRES.ORG



Dear Friends, there is a popular expression that says, "We will never change the world by going to church. We will only change the world by being the church." This expression resonates with my heart.

At Frenchtown Presbyterian, being the church matters. Our church makes a huge difference in the lives of the people in our midst and beyond. We serve Christ faithfully and we give of ourselves, our resources, and our time. We ask God to work through us so that lives are impacted for Christ. We share who we are and what we hope to be and we ask that God bless us and the ministries of Frenchtown Presbyterian.

In being the church, Frenchtown Presbyterian makes worship to God a priority. Our worship committee, choir members, musicians, praise team, instrumentalists, worship leaders, ushers, greeters, elders, deacons, our music director, and our organist/accompanist together make a difference. Our audio, technology, and visual team make a difference. Through worship, we seek out the presence of God and we pray that lives are touched in the process. We are fortunate to enjoy meaningful worship with wonderful music where we experience and see the gifts that God has given.

We also make a difference through our educational programs. We've been fortunate to have Glenn Horvath and other leaders offer adult Bible Studies. Our Presbyterian Women lift up the women of our church for service, study, and fellowship. Rob Ross and our youth leaders make a difference in guiding our Middle School and High School Youth to faith through our Ignite ministries. Our youth make a difference as they gather for fun, study, service, and community. Kid's Communities makes a difference for our children as they study The Bible and learn about God's love. We make a difference in the lives of the young people that we send on mission trips and to camps. We make a difference through our caring ministries through the Deacons. Our Community Outreach programs make a difference in the lives of our members and in the lives of The Frenchtown Community. Many who engage in our Mission and Outreach offerings do so because they want to help others and in so doing, find it feeds their souls as well.

Not only do we make a difference in the lives of our members, but we also make a difference in the lives of people around the world. We're making a difference in the lives of the people who live right here in Frenchtown through our Food Pantry, our Shoe Drive, as well as our Angel Trees at Christmas. We're making a difference to people in Texas, Louisiana, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Florida, and many other places in need through our donations to the Presbyterian Disaster Relief and our own mission projects. We make a difference to the people who attend our Adult Activity Group on Tuesdays. We make a difference with offering our space to the community for Boy Scouts, AA Meetings, AIA non meetings, Zumba classes, etc.

Our staff makes a difference in making sure there are friendly faces to greet folks in the office, on the telephone, and through email. We are grateful to Lea Raymond, our church secretary, for offering us meaningful communications through the bulletins, newsletters, emails, etc. She goes above and beyond to make sure her duties are accomplished efficiently and that everyone has necessary information. Her smile and welcoming presence make all feel welcome. We are grateful to Christine Aherne, our financial secretary, for her attention to detail in making sure our accounts payable are timely and organized. She is dedicated to communicating with the treasurer



## 2017

### Inside this issue:

FROM THE PASTOR	1-2
SERMON SERIES	3
WORSHIP & MUSIC	4
SESSION AND DEACON NEWS	4
PW WOMEN BAZAAR	5
YOUTH GROUP	5
KID'S COMMUNITIES/PAGEANT	5-6
STEWARDSHIP	7
UPCOMING EVENTS	8

(continued from page 1)

and staff members regarding financial matters. She assists members and friends of the church, as well as our church leadership, to ensure that all receive reimbursements in a timely matter. She also is a welcoming face on the days she works in the office. We are grateful to our treasurer, Sue Fitchett, who makes sure our leadership is aware of our financial status and that our books are in-line. She comes faithfully to session meetings and shares details regarding spending, budgeting and our available resources. She spends many hours organizing our financial information. We are grateful to our Music Director, Kathy Hartman, who has led our choir and our music program to new heights. She is gifted and accomplished and as introduced the Christmas Cantata and other musical offerings that benefit our church and those within our community. She has done so with facing challenges in her health. We are also grateful to Josh Wilson, our organist/ accompanist, who shares incredible talent and musical abilities. He has stepped in when necessary to do all that is possible to offer special music within worship and for special occasions. We are blessed to have him as part our staff.

We are grateful to Rob Ross, our youth pastor, for his dedication to our youth, his support of community efforts, his worship leadership, his staff involvement, his pastoral care, and his behind the scenes leadership that includes audio/visual technology assistance, our property concerns, etc. We are grateful to him for always being present and dedicated to his calling. We are grateful to our "un-official" sexton, Marie Johnson, who cares for all the people and our beautiful facility. She does so selflessly and with her whole heart. We are also grateful to Tom and Deanna Higgins for caring for our facility and its needs and cleaning requirements. They work faithfully with attention to detail and are conscientious of the needs of our church building, staff, etc. We are grateful to our nursery team and our volunteers who give generously of their time, resources, and talents.

We are able to make a difference because each of you shares your time, talents, and resources to make things happen. We make a difference because this church has been blessed. We have been entrusted with funds from bequests, tithes, and offerings. All the financial gifts from outside sources and inside sources have provided for an investment in ongoing ministries and future ministries. We are blessed because our members believe in the ministries of the church. You have faith in Jesus Christ and in God above. We are blessed because you have decided to share the blessings you have received. In sharing, you have become a blessing to others and give back a portion of all that you have been given from God above. We ask for God to bless our church because we seek to be about his business in who we are and in what we do.

In the next several weeks you will continue to hear stories about our church ministries through the moments for stewardship. On Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, you will be asked to indicate your support of our ministries through your pledge. Your generosity should include financial resources, your time, and the sharing of your talents. Being the Church matters. And, YOU matter. Everyone in our church matters. Those in our midst matter. Those who are hurting matter. And JESUS matters. You have the opportunity and the privilege to help Frenchtown Presbyterian continue to make a difference in the lives within and beyond our church building. Pray about what you will give and do so with all that you are and all that you have to give.

In the Unfailing Love of Jesus Christ,  
Pastor Courtney

**To reach Pastor Courtney:**

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

Home Mailing Address: 20 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Home Phone: [908.996.0527](tel:908.996.0527)

Cell Phone: [561.703.2263](tel:561.703.2263)

Church office: [908.996.2227](tel:908.996.2227)



## SERMON SERIES

### FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH SERMON SERIES CONTINUES

#### **October 8 Foundations of Faith: The Good Shepherd**

John 10:14-15, 22-30 will be our focus. Come and bring your sheep!

We welcome you to bring your stuffed-animal sheep, sheep figurines, sheep pictures, etc. Help us to remember that Jesus is our Shepherd and we are his sheep and his flock.



#### **October 15 Foundations of Faith: Filled with the Spirit**

The apostle Paul commands in Ephesians 5:18 that we be filled with the Spirit. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit? And, many of us might ask, how can we be filled with the Spirit? Perhaps being filled with the Spirit means having (continued on page 2)

great joy in God or perhaps it means that we are given the strength and understanding we need to go about living our lives as people of faith. Come and pray your way through how you might be filled with the Spirit.



#### **October 22 Foundations of Faith: Praying Without Ceasing**

Prayer is the open admission that without Christ we can do nothing. Prayer is an expression of faith in God's power, fueled by a desire for more of him. Come, learn, and experience a variety of ways to pray.

#### **October 29 Foundations of Faith: Celebration of the Church - 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation Sunday and Bible Sunday for our Children**

When the Reformation began in 1517, the Church and culture were soon to change forever. But centuries haven't changed one thing: it's still all about Jesus! "We want Presbyterians to engage with the best of the Reformation," says Charles A. Wiley III, coordinator of Theology and Worship in the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA). According to Wiley, the Reformation matters today because it insists that God in Christ, by the power of the Spirit, loves us without condition, comes to us in Word and Sacrament, is not confined by any church structure, and calls us to love God with our lives, regardless of work or station in life. "The Reformation confirmed that every Christian life belongs to God and is to be lived out in Christian vocation," says Wiley, "which makes a huge difference in how we live." The task of reformation never ends, for every person, in every generation, we need to be open to reforming and to hear anew the good news of grace offered through Christ, our Savior, who leads us from sin to eternal life. Come and remember the history of the Reformed Tradition and to celebrate the gift of the church.

#### **And our Foundations of Faith Sermon Series continues into November:**

November 5 Foundations of Faith: Abundance in Obedience - Stewardship Sunday

November 12 Foundations of Faith: Fishing for Men

November 19 Foundations of Faith: Gifts, Miracles, & Gratitude

## **WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMISSION**

Welcome back to the fall worship schedule – we're back to our 8:00 and 10:00am services, Kid's Communities is in full swing, and choir is back. Now, we need YOU to be a part of worship! We are looking for anyone interested to participate in worship during the 10:00 service with the following:

- Greeters
- Candle lighting/extinguishing
- Sound system
- Reading scripture

All of these jobs are easy, and don't need any preparation before service! Contact Diane Reed [dianereed288@yahoo.com](mailto:dianereed288@yahoo.com) or Gayla Gerhardt at 908-310-0702, if you are interested. Rehearsals have started for our third annual Christmas Cantata, but it's not too late to join in the fun. Contact Kathy Hartman [kdawgsing@gmail.com](mailto:kdawgsing@gmail.com) or Josh



## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Nominations are being accepted for the position of clerk of session and deacon. We are grateful to the Nominating Committee for their faithful work in bringing forth leaders who have been called by God to serve in our deacon and elder positions. 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, a member of our nominating committee, or Pastor Courtney.



## **DEACON AND SESSION NEWS**

Fall Session/Deacon Retreat: Sunday, October 29 – 6-9 PM

Our Deacons and Elders will be gathering for a Fall Retreat on Sunday, October 29 from 6 -9 PM. Please pray for our leadership as we discern how God is directing us to “be” the church in the coming days and years. God is calling us to continue to be a blessing to Frenchtown and beyond. We pray for our leaders to be faithful and to seek God’s wisdom in leadership.

## **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

A new member class will be held on Sunday, October 22 from 11:15am – 4pm. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting. Perhaps you just want to learn more about the Presbyterian Church and/or Frenchtown Presbyterian in particular. Attending the class does not mean you must join the church. You are welcome to make that decision after you come to the meeting. Those who make the choice to join will meet with the Session and then be received into membership during an upcoming worship service. If you are interested and available to attend, let Pastor Courtney know. You can reach her by email at [pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org) or you may call the church office. You can sign up for the class or you can just come to the parlor after worship on Sunday, October 22. For those who are not quite ready, another class will be given during the spring.



## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women are asking for your help.

On November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>st</sup> we will be holding our annual Christmas Bazaar. If you are crafty and would like to donate homemade items we would greatly appreciate them.

**Please Note The Following Changes.** We will NOT be collecting any white elephant items. ONLY homemade items!!! We are also asking for donations of baked goods for our bake sale.



## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

It's that time of year again!!! Although we have a few months, the Christmas Season is nearing us! What an exciting time of year it is. The lights will be hung and be shining bright, trees will be up and decorated, stores will be filled with people looking for the perfect gift, and the most important reason for the season; the birth of Jesus Christ, the best gift that could have ever been given to us. We need all youth involved, young and old! There are many ways to help; speaking parts, non-speaking parts, lights, sound, back stage hands. We also need some parents willing to help us out as well. There is room for everyone!!! Please sign up! The Christmas Pageant will be held on Friday, December 22, 2017 at 7pm. Please contact me for more information, mhendrix@ptd.net or (908) 797-4198. Jesus is the reason for the season!

Michelle Hendrix , Christian Education



## YOUTH GROUP

Youth group has some exciting activities planned for this fall.

Friday October 6th, 7pm - Palisades Football game at Palisades HS

Sunday October 8th - Senior High Brunch & Bible

Thursday October 12th - 5-6:30pm - Open Gym at Frenchtown Elementary School

Friday October 13th - 7pm Del-Val Football Game at Del-Val HS

Sunday October 15th - 4pm Pastor Courtney's Installation Service

Sunday October 22nd - Senior High Brunch and Bible

Thursday October 26th - 5:30-6:30pm Open gym at FES

Friday October 27th - 7pm Phillipsburg Football Game @ Phillipsburg, HS

Tuesday October 31st - Frenchtown Halloween Trick or Treat Night

Friday-Saturday November 3-4, Youth Lock-in @ FPC

If you have any question please call Robert Ross at 609-571-8012.



## STEWARDSHIP NEWS

As our new Pastor Rev. Courtney B. Cromie transitions into the Frenchtown Presbyterian family; on behalf of the Stewardship commission I would like to thank everyone for their kindness and constant support. Your contributions, gifts and pledges have not only supported our Church, but also our community as a whole. Your gifts, whether that be in the form of God-given talents or from tithes and offerings makes us eager to see where this next era leads us.

On September 10th, we kicked-off the 2017/2018 Stewardship Campaign. This year's theme is "Fulfillment through Giving" and the verse to remember is 2 Corinthians 9:8, "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work." Each Sunday, leading into Stewardship Sunday, members of various Commissions, Committees and Ministries will be speaking, during our Minute for Missions, in order to give you a better idea of what each area of our Church is doing. During this time, we ask you to prayerfully consider where and how God is calling you to serve.

Later in October, you will be receiving our Campaign Letter, along with a Pledge Card. On November 5th, Stewardship Sunday, we will have a Celebration of Giving.

In the meantime, we continue with Part 2 of the series, "HANDLING OUR WEALTH". We hope you are enjoying this short series, which I find particularly appropriate during this Stewardship Season. It certainly gives me food for thought, as I prayerfully consider where and how God is calling me to serve.

---

### HANDLING OUR WEALTH

#### Part 2: A Little Bit More

***"Dear Lord, bless the labor of our hands, because you know, Lord, if we had just a little bit more, we could give more to those in need."***

And when God answers that prayer, time and again He is disappointed. Polls suggest that as the income of Christians goes up, the percent of giving goes down. The dreams of society collide with the vision of God's kingdom. Sometimes we get caught up in the idea of a little bit more. "If I just had a little bit more, I could afford to be more generous." However, true generosity is rooted in habits of the heart, not in the bank balance. But God remains undeterred. Again and again He floods us with blessings, hoping to trigger a hearty, generous and exuberant response to His love. It is such a joy for Him to give that He wants us to experience that same sense of joy and fulfillment – the excitement of living in His image. You see, He really doesn't need our money. It is all His anyway. If He needs a program funded, a hungry mouth fed or a home for the homeless, He can just as easily make it happen without us. But when that happens, we are the losers. We have lost the opportunity to experience the joy and fulfillment of helping one of His children, the kind of experience He finds so thrilling. We have carelessly thrown away an opportunity to become more like Him. There is much work to be done that will be accomplished with our generous giving. During this time of the year, as we recognize that He has given us "a little bit more," keep in mind the kind of joy He hopes that little bit more will bring to us.

#### What Does Scripture Say?

*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10*

*In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Acts 20:35*

*Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7 Reprinted by permission: Barnabas Foundation, Tinley Park, IL*

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**Free Senior Lunch and Learn Program**

**When?** Every Tuesday from 11:30 to 1:30

### Guest Speaker Schedule:

Oct 24th - Lacy Phelps, Outsmart the scammers!

Nov. 7, A century of Hair through history!

Nov. 14 Estate planning/living wills

Dec 5, celebrate being a mature woman with quotes on aging by famous women!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **All Are Welcome to the Installation and Reception following**

All are invited to attend a reception following the Installation Service on Sunday, October 15th. Please come and join us for a time of food and celebration of this new journey for our church. Many guests from the New Brunswick Presbytery and our surrounding communities will be in attendance. This is a great opportunity to share with all the fabulous ministries and offerings we have here at Frenchtown Presbyterian with others. Please join in the Installation at 4 PM and the reception that follows.

### **Open House at the Manse**

There will be an "Open House @ Pastor Courtney's House" on Saturday, October 21st 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, s'mores/desserts, and a hot meal for dinner. Come and enjoy a time of fellowship and fun. There will also be yard games in the back. All ages are invited!



### **"FALL FAMILY FUN DAY"**

Sunday, October 29 times TBD

Join us for a fun family day. Scarecrow making, pumpkin decorating/carving, crafts, etc. More details to come!!!



### **Trick or Treat Pit-stop**

It's that spooooky, fun time of year approaching soon! Once again we will be sponsoring the "Parent's Pit-stop" on Halloween night, Tuesday, October 31st! If you can donate a bag or two of Halloween candy, please bring it to the church office for safe keeping. If you can help that night with set up, handing out goodies, or clean up, please contact Barbara Huey at [\(908\) 268-6063](tel:9082686063) or [barbarahuey1@gmail.com](mailto:barbarahuey1@gmail.com). Thank you. Looking forward to seeing everyone Halloween night!







### **HELP IS NEEDED TO BUILD AN AUDIO-VISUAL TEAM**

We are still looking for people willing and interested to help with audio/visual needs in worship. We need several individuals to offer to help at either service so that we will have a team who work together to cover the audio/visual needs. The job would be to help on Sundays during either service to make sure all goes well with the display of information on the screen and to monitor and/or make adjustments to the sound board. This is a unique opportunity for you to work behind the scenes and provide a meaningful worship experience for our congregation. See Rob Ross, Pastor Courtney, or a member of the Worship Committee for more information. Or you can call our church office at: 908-996-2227.

### **A REMINDER TO SHARE HOSPITAL INFORMATION WITH FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Due to current privacy laws, it is more difficult for a pastor or other staff to know when those within our congregation are hospitalized. Please call the church office at [908-996-2227](tel:908-996-2227) if you or anyone you know is in the hospital. You may also email, if you prefer, at [office@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:office@frenchtownpres.org). In the case of an emergency, please reach out to Pastor Courtney via phone or text at [561.703.2263](tel:561.703.2263)

We also ask for people to please update the church office with any changes in mailing address, home phone, cell phone, email address etc. You can do so by emailing [office@frenchtownpres.org](mailto:office@frenchtownpres.org). Thank you!

**TO THE LIFE ETERNAL** - Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Ed & Theresa Marston in the loss of their son, James.

Ann Wong for the loss of her father, Robert Reichenbach.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM** on September 24th, **Kylie Mariah Miller**. Kylie was born March 16, 2017 to Zachary and Jenna Miller, granddaughter to Barry and Debbie Godown.



Frenchtown Presbyterian Church  
4<sup>th</sup> Street PO Box 114  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Non-profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Flemington, NJ 08822  
Permit #695



## **FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

### **Regular Worship Schedule**

**8:00 a.m. with Communion**

**10:00 a.m. Worship Service**

**Monthly Breakfast, October 15th**