

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.

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

Sonja Mitchell 908-892-2021

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

Sonja Mitchell 908-892-2021

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

Church Secretary

Lea Raymond 908-996-2227

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

Financial Secretary

Christine Aherne 908-996-2227

Choir Director

Kathy Hartman 484-226-0017



FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent/Communion

Welcome to all who worship with us this morning!

8:00 A.M. Worship

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

*Hymn #123

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Advent Wreath Lighting – Light of Love

Passing of the Peace

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon “A Light of Life & Love in the Darkness of Death”

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

Leader: Our God has throughout long generations prepared a way in our world for the coming of the Christ Child.

People: Through the Holy Spirit, God is still bringing the light of the Gospel into darkened lives.

Leader: We ask you, God, to renew us so that we may welcome Jesus Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love.

People: For Christ, Emmanuel, came to us as our Lord of Lords and King of Kings and to whom be all glory for all time.

All: Let us Worship God!

*Hymn #82 "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Advent Wreath Lighting – Light of Love

Prayer of Confession

Dear God, forgive us as we envy the shepherds and others who approach Advent and Christmas simply and genuinely. For they seem to seek and to come and visit the baby Jesus. In the busyness of the season, we find ourselves caught in the traditions and trappings neglecting to observe the deeper meaning of the birth of Jesus. Teach us to find rest and serenity as we prepare for Christmas instead of stress and anxiety.

Encourage us to relax, to breathe deeply, and to experience a sense of holiness and of your presence in our lives. Let the gift of your Son, and his life and ministry, become most important in our lives this Christmas. May your love for us in the gift of Christ encourage us to love and care for your people, especially those who are hurting in our midst. Please hear our prayer, Oh God, to take over our lives and transform us into your true followers. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Children's Message

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

A Reading from Old Testament

Isaiah 7:10-16

This is the Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Choral Anthem

A Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon

"A Light of Life & Love in the Darkness of Death"

God Calls Us to Respond

*Hymn #145

"What Child is This?"

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

**The Lord's Supper (see ** below)

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Words of Institution/Breaking & Pouring

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

God Sends Us Out to Reflect His Love

*Hymn #123

"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

Charge and Blessing

Choral Benediction

Postlude

**please stand if able*

**During the 10:00 service this morning all (including children) are invited to receive the Lord's Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion will be served by Pastor Courtney, Elders and Deacons from the front of the sanctuary. All worshippers wishing to receive the Sacraments will be guided by Elders and Deacons down the aisle to receive the bread (gluten-free bread is also available) and individual cups of juice. Please partake of the bread and juice as it is served to you. Baskets will be available for empty cups. Worshipers return to the pews as directed by the Elders and Deacons in their aisles. If someone is not able to come forward, Communion will be served in the pew.

*Child Care 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.



Advent Study with Pastor Courtney

Pastor Courtney will be leading a four-week Advent Study Series Thursdays from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at The Manse. All are welcome even if you can't attend every week.

Any question contact pastorcourtney@frenchtownpres.org.

Christmas Pageant

Come and celebrate Christ's birth with us at this year's Christmas Pageant on Friday, December 22nd at 7pm. Children who are participating in the pageant will be practicing during these times:

Today - During Kids Communities

Sunday, December 17th - Right after 10am Worship until 1:30pm (Lunch will be provided)

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.

Offering Envelopes

2018 giving envelopes will be in the Fellowship Hall during the month of December. If you would like to have envelopes for 2018 please call the church office 908-996-2227 or email office@frenchtownpres.org

Online Giving

Through a Presbyterian Foundation process, it is possible to give regular gifts and year-end gifts through your checking account or through your credit cards. To make an online gift, visit this link on the church website: <http://frenchtownpres.org/give/> Please note that there are credit card and online transaction fees associated with giving online.

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 10-16

Monday

Men's Group, 7pm in the Memorial Parlor

Tuesday

AA Meeting 6:30am

Senior Lunch and Learn, 11:30-1pm

Wednesday

AA Meeting 7:30pm

Bible Study, 9am

Thursday

AA Meeting 6:30am

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30p-9pm

Advent Study at the Manse, 7-9pm

Saturday

Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 8:30am

AA Meeting 7pm

Open house at the Manse, 4-9pm

Next Sunday

Free Christmas Breakfast

PW cookie sale

Ballatine House Trip, 1pm

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

Christmas Cantata

Our Christmas Cantata, "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," will be held TODAY at 2 PM. A Reception will be held after the Cantata. Free-will offering for admission to fund the music fund.

Secret Santa Workshop - During the Cantata, children are invited to create/wrap homemade Christmas gifts for their loved ones at the Secret Santa Workshop. *Parents will be able to enjoy the beautiful voices and sounds of the Cantata while their children are at the Secret Santa Workshop.*

Christmas Eve Services

December 24th - 4th Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve Morning Services (8AM & 10AM)

5 PM Christmas Eve Family Service is for the young and the young at heart. This is a wonderful time of worship 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, 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, 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, partake of Holy Communion, and light candles to celebrate Christ's birth.

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

Angel Tree Gifts

All Angel Tree gifts are due **TODAY!** Please contact Debbie Cooley at 908-995-7770 if you have any questions.

Christmas Breakfast

Join us for our traditional FREE Christmas Breakfast on December 17th from 8:30am to 10am. Please invite your whole family, friend, or neighbor to join us for some Christmas fellowship.

Presbyterian Women's Christmas Cookie Sale

The PW will be holding a Christmas cookie sale on Sunday December 17th. **Cookies Are Needed!** PW are asking for homemade cookie donations for their Christmas cookie sale. All homemade cookies can be brought to the church on Friday December 15th and by 10 am Saturday December 16th. If cookies are brought in on Friday please make sure you mark them for the PW cookie sale.

Presbyterian Women - Thank You

PW would like to thank all those who made things, baked and purchased things from our annual Christmas Sale. All proceeds will be put towards the work and mission of our church.

Christmas trip

All are welcome to join us for a **Christmas in the Ballantine House - on Sunday December 17th**. Ticket provided by the Deacons. The bus will leave the church at 1pm. Ballantine House, offers visitors a taste of how Christmas was celebrated in late Victorian Newark, as English, German and Dutch holiday traditions.

In addition, we will be touring the Newark Museum, which is on the same property. A signup sheet is posted on the "I Can Do That Board" Contact Dave Griffith at 908-693-0405 with any questions.

Food Pantry

Next Sunday is Pantry Sunday. Please bring something in for the food pantry. Items needed are spaghetti sauce, pasta (other than spaghetti), apples, potatoes, oranges and paper products. Thank you for your help.

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 Christmas? If so....consider giving a paver for the front walk-way of the church. 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.

