**Frenchtown Presbyterian Church**

PO Box 114, 22 Fourth St. Frenchtown, NJ 08825

 908-996-2227

 Website: www.frenchtownpres.org

Pastor Cell - 609-303-0500

**Worship 9:30AM**

**Clerk of Session**

Kathy Skerbetz – 908-720-6533

**Session (Elders)**

Maureen Breiner Bill Penyak

Shari Bethman Bjellquist Paul Pfisterer

Jennifer Campbell Tonya Reese

Gayla Gerhardt Carl Stokes

John Fiebig Kathy Skerbetz

**Board of Deacons**

Carole Barrett Barbara Kerekes

Sharon Beck Lorraine Sellitto

Debbie Godown Eileen Warkala

Ken Gerhardt Amy Verecha

**Pastor**

Rev. Dr. Merideth Mueller-Bolton

pastormerideth@gmail.com

**Church Secretary**

 Lea Raymond

 office@frenchtownpres.org

**Financial Manager**

 Mary Ann Hampton

 finance@frenchtownpres.org

**Music Director**

 Hugh Sung

hughsung@gmail.com

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**FRENCHTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**June 18, 2023**

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

Prelude - Madalina & Hugh

Welcome & Announcements

 **God Gathers Us in Love**

Call to Worship (from Psalms 100)

Let all creation sing with gladness;

**Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**

Come and abide with the One who formed us;

**Make a joyful noise to the Creator!**

Give thanks, and praise, and bless God’s name;

**Make a joyful noise to God!**

\*Hymn #12 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (unison)

 **Almighty God, you have promised liberation for your people, and reconciliation for all of creation. We confess that we have grown weary of waiting. We have lowered our hopes, and scaled our expectations according to the world, rather than believing in your steadfast Word. We confess that we have grown comfortable in our waiting. We cry out for justice, if it doesn’t cost us too much. We proclaim your liberation, as long as it doesn’t impinge on the freedoms that we value most. Forgive us, we pray. Give us courage to speak your liberating Word and endurance to persevere until your kingdom comes. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

\*Passing of the Peace

Gloria Patri #582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

**God Speaks to Us Through God’s Word**

First Scripture Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

Responsive Reading - Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

**Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem-- built as a city that is bound firmly thanks to the name of the LORD.

**For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

**Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers."**

For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

**For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.**

Second Scripture Reading Acts 2:38-47

Sermon "Bucking the Trend"

**God Calls Us to Respond**

\*Hymn #301 “Let Us Build a House”

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology #606 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

 \*Prayer of Dedication

\*Affirmation of Faith (from Colossians 1)

 **Jesus Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.**

**For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Each petition ends: Gracious God, incline your ear to us…

Response: …**Hear our prayers and supplications**.

**God Sends Us Out to Reflect God’s Love**

\*Hymn #300 “We Are One in the Spirit”

Charge and Blessing

Postlude – Madalina & Hugh

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**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 – June 18-25th**

**Monday**

**Tuesday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

 Card Games, 2-4pm in Fellowship Hall

 AA Meeting, 8pm

**Wednesday**

 AA Meeting 7:30pm

**Thursday**

 AA Meeting 6:30am

**Friday**

 Alanon Meeting 12-1pm

**Saturday**

 Saturday Women's AA Group Meeting 9am

 AA Meeting 7pm

**Next Sunday**

 VBS meeting after worship

**VBS is Coming to FPC**

Save the date for FOOD TRUCK PARTY VBS!  August 14-18th, 9:00am-11:30am at the Frenchtown Presbyterian Church. Ages preschool (must be toilet trained) through 5th grade invited. It will be combined with Milford Presbyterian and Alexandria Presbyterian Church. More info and registration to come.  Contact Kathy Skerbetz at 908-720-6533 for questions or if you would like to help.

All are welcome!

There will be a VBS Meeting after church on June 25th for those interested in helping.

**Trenton Thunder Baseball Game**

Join us on July 29th for a Trenton Thunder Baseball Game and Fireworks Compliments of the Deacons.

Trenton Thunder will take on The Williamsport Crosscutters. Game time 6:30pm with fireworks after the game. Please sign up on the list in Fellowship Hall, with how many are coming.

Tickets will be handed out at church the Sunday before the game.

There are 50 tickets reserved, so first come first served.

It’s a fun night out!! So, sign up early to make sure you get a ticket.

**Coming soon…the NEW DIRECTORY!**

Plans are underway to update and improve the content and availability of our directory.  Watch for sign-ups this summer to have your picture taken in Fellowship Hall.  You’ll also have an opportunity to check and update your contact information. With the updated pictures and information, we’ll compile a new directory that will be available online, through a secure portal on our website. It will be available to members and friends who have a passcode. We anticipate taking photos in mid-August through September.  Stay tuned!

**Book Club**

The book club will meet on Monday July 10th 1pm at Jimmy’s Ice Cream in Holland Township. The book they will be discussing is “Winter Garden” by Kristin Hannah. All are welcome!