



THE TOWER

*First Presbyterian Church
37 Church Mall
Springfield, NJ 07081*

VOL. 79 NO. 10

JUNE 2021

WELCOME BACK!

As of May 23, 2021, the Church will begin a phased-in re-opening plan.

May 23rd (Pentecost Sunday) - June 13th will be Phase I for Officers.
(Current Elders, Deacons and their household members).

June 20th (Father's Day) to July 11th, Phase II will allow all members and friends of the church to make reservations to attend. (those on our mailing list).

After that, Phase III will open to the public to reserve a seat to attend, providing we are in a moderate (yellow) or better (green) rate of transmission for Union County. At the time of this writing, Union County is a yellow zone.

Reservations are made by calling the church office before Noon on Fridays for the following Sunday. You may leave a message at any time during the week and if you do not reach a staff member, you will receive a confirmation call or e-mail by Friday afternoon. If you do not have a reservation, walk-ins will be permitted as space allows. Deacons will direct you to your seat.

When we open to the public, a name and phone number will be required from any person not on our mailing list.

For Phase I & II, attendees will enter through the side door by the parking lot ramp and leave through the front doors. (if we were to open the front doors to enter, the public would assume we are open before we are ready to welcome them).

Please see further CDC and Church rules that must be followed by all worship attendees.

Session Guidelines to allow our church to open for worship:

- ❖ Reservations needed
- ❖ Hand sanitizer used upon entry
- ❖ Seated by households
- ❖ Social distancing practiced
- ❖ Face coverings worn at all times
- ❖ A Deacon will direct you to a seat
- ❖ No Fellowship Hour
- ❖ Must leave the building immediately after worship
- ❖ For restroom use: self-clean by each individual before and after use
- ❖ It is recommended you not attend worship until 2 weeks after your 2nd Covid-19 vaccine

By attending and participating in the worship service, social distancing must be practiced, and face coverings worn at all times to reduce the risks of exposure to COVID-19. In light of the ongoing spread of COVID-19, individuals who fall within any of the following categories should not engage in worship service:

Individuals who currently or within the past 14 days have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

Individuals who have traveled at any point in the past 14 days internationally.

Individuals who believe that they may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19.

Participants and volunteers agree to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

As a participant, volunteer, or attendee, you recognize that your participation, involvement and/or attendance is voluntary, and you acknowledge and assume all risks and dangers associated with your participation and/or attendance and you have given a full release of liability to the First Congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Springfield.

Linda Amiano, Clerk of Session
May 13, 2021



FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR LINDSEY

Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

When you think of the month of June, what immediately comes to your mind? Let us see. Wait a minute. It is Father's Day. Happy Father's Day to all the Fathers.

Father's Day began in 1910, two years after the first official celebration of Mother's Day in the U.S. The holiday began thanks to a woman named Sonora Smart Dodd, who had been raised with her siblings by her widower father, Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart. Inspired by how her father rose to the challenge of parenting alone, Sonora Smart Dodd thought there should be a special day to recognize dads as well as moms.

But isn't there a Father that we worship and praise everyday as Christians. That would be our Heavenly Father. God the Father. 1 Corinthians 8:6, "But for us, there is only one God, the Father. Everything came from Him, and we live for Him. There is only one Lord, Jesus Christ. Everything came into being through Him, and we live because of Him.

He also works in us through His blessings and sanctification anointing us so that we can grow more and more into the image of Christ. God accomplishes every good thing that we do. We cannot do anything good apart from His power working through us.

As we celebrate our earthly fathers, let us not forget the Father that created us. If it were not for that Father, none of us would be celebrating anything at all. But the best gift we can give on Father's Day is the gift of love.

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your good gifts upon us than we are to seek them. You are more willing to give than we desire or deserve. Help us so to seek that we may truly find, so to ask that we may joyfully receive, so to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICES

We will continue to Livestream our worship services on Sunday mornings at 10:15am via YouTube, with the video of each service posted on YouTube and our Website, www.springfieldpresbyterian.org, later in the day. One way to easily connect to YouTube for the live service each week is to click on the link for the Virtual Worship Service on the home page of our Website. This link will take you to the church's YouTube page. Once there, hit "Subscribe," and you should have no trouble connecting with us on Sunday mornings.



SESSION MEETING: Monday, June 7th at 7pm via Zoom.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Our staff holidays for the summer season include Friday, July 2nd (Independence Day Weekend) and Monday, September 6th (Labor Day).

CELEBRATING GRADUATION



Congratulations to **Andrew Guida**, who graduated from Rutgers University, New Brunswick on January 18, 2021 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Andrew is the son of Lisa and Ken Guida.



Congratulations to **Emma Ares** who graduated from Penn State with a nursing degree!

Samantha Werner will be graduating from 8th grade this month. Best wishes to Sam as she begins her High School years this Fall!

If there are any additional graduates that wish to share their joy, please send the details and a photo to: FirstPCOffice@verizon.net, and we'll be sure to add it to the next edition of the *Tower* Newsletter!

PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey can be reached at her personal email address: madelynne_lindsey@yahoo.com

She can also be reached (by voice or by text) on her cell phone at: 732-227-0017. Please feel free to contact Pastor for any reason. If she is unable to answer your call, please leave your contact information on her voice mail and she will return your call.



FATHER'S DAY IS JUNE 20th

To all the fathers and father-figures in our lives, we thank you for your love, protection, and guidance. For the fathers that have gone before us, we hold the memory of them close to heart.

May God our Father, continue to bless us all and surround us with His love, each and every day!

A MOMENT FOR HISTORY

Each June, we usually share the story of the Battle of Springfield (June 23, 1780), and the church's role in supplying the Watts Hymnals that were used for wadding by the NJ militia who were blocking the enemy from reaching Washington's troops in Morristown.

This year, we will focus on the 1905 celebration commemorating the 125th anniversary of the Battle. Did you know that the Rev. William Hoppage, who served this church as Pastor from 1887- 1913 was also a great historian? He actually transcribed ancient hand-written documents to provide a documented timeline of significant events in the life of the church. While pastor, he was invited to participate in a New Jersey State historic commission, which was instrumental in erecting several statues and monuments in Union County. The most familiar to us, is that of the Continental Soldier, which stands on the front lawn of the church.

The land was donated by Session to the State of New Jersey (100 square feet) for \$1.00. The unveiling of the statue was a grand event which is documented in detail in the *History of Union County*. It is the smallest State Park in New Jersey.

The photo below is that of the unveiling of the statue, just before a very elaborate service was conducted in our sanctuary. June 23, 2021 is the 241st anniversary of the Battle of Springfield.



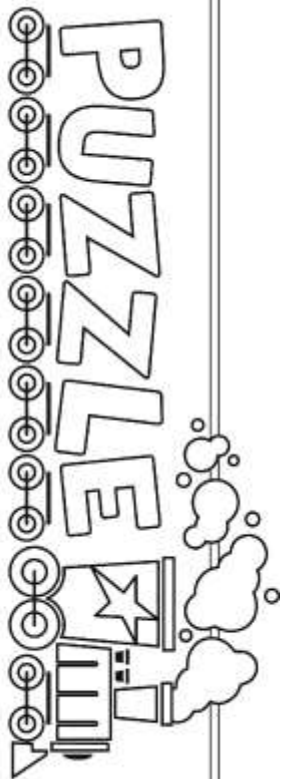
The June financial statements will be mailed in the beginning of July. Please review your statements carefully, and contact Linda J. in the office. She will follow up with the Financial Secretary to resolve any errors or concerns. If your pledge is in arrears, we ask that you bring it current as soon as your means allow. Thank you to all our church members and friends for their continued support.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS TO CELEBRATE!

JUNE 2-Ken Bogden, Sue Bogden; 5- Angela Ruebling-Jass
6- Gladys Gieser; 14- Deborah Biber 15- Helmut Grimm;
20- Jack Bliss; 21- Theresa Werner; 24- Michael Gleicher;



Special June Dates: June 6 – D Day, WWII; June 14th : Flag Day;
June 20th : First Day of Summer & Father’s Day



Conundrums of creation

God’s creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.



You can hold but not touch this. _____

Before using this, you must break it. _____

This falls without getting hurt. _____

This gets bigger the more you take away. _____

This has an eye but cannot see. _____

“In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the _____.

It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit

to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.”

PSALM 19 : 4 - 6 , N I V

Answer: breath, egg, rain, hole, hurricane, sun

June 2021

A Welcoming Church for 276 Years...

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield

Sanctuary/Chapel: 210 Morris Avenue
Office/Parish House: 87 Church Mall
Springfield, NJ 07081

Phone: 973-379-4320
Fax: 973-379-8883
E-mail: FirstPCOffice@verizon.net
Website: www.springfieldpresbyterian.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Phase I - Officers & family welcome for in-person worship Phase II - Church members welcome for in-person worship		1	2	3	4	5
6 Phase I 10:15am livestreamed service	7 Session 7pm Via Zoom	8	9	10 Virtual High School Awards	11	12
13 Phase I 10:15am livestreamed service Congregational Meeting 1pm via Zoom	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Phase II 10:15am livestreamed service Father's Day	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Phase II 10:15am livestreamed service	28	29	30			

THE FIRST CONGREGATION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT SPRINGFIELD
37 CHURCH MALL
SPRINGFIELD, NJ 07081

stamp

PLACE ADDRESS
LABEL HERE

SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE CONGREGATION/CORPORATION
JUNE 13, 2021

There will be a Special Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation of the First Congregation of the Presbyterian Church at Springfield on Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 1:00pm via Zoom for the purpose of Electing an Elder. No other business can be brought before this meeting.

s/Linda Amiano
Clerk of Session

David Ares
President, Board of Elders

First Presbyterian Springfield is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Special Meeting of the Congregation/Corporation

Time: Jun 13, 2021 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82079699178?pwd=Sko4YmdFbEV2Lys0NVdFOEhTU0VSQT09>

Meeting ID: 820 7969 9178 Passcode: 389142

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 820 7969 9178 Passcode: 389142 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keyPY1nirY>