



THE TOWER

First Presbyterian Church
37 Church Mall
Springfield, NJ 07081
www.SpringfieldPresbyterian.org
973-379-4320

VOL.75 NO. 03

NOVEMBER 2022

ALL SAINTS DAY REMEMBRANCE



Members who died in the past year are remembered each All Saints Day. This year, on Sunday, October 30th, members and active friends who died from November 2021 through October 2022 were remembered. As the names were announced, a family member, Elder or Deacon lit a candle as a brief remembrance was read.

List of Mortality November 2021 -October 2022

Willemena (Wilma) Meyer Brenn, May 19, 2022

Deacon and Elder Yolanda Maria Rueda, June 8, 2022

Elder Russell H. Helsel, September 3, 2022

Trustee, Deacon and Elder Kenneth D. Hendrix, October 5, 2022

Church Sexton, Steven Wichik, October 25, 2022





We are a grateful congregation, within a grateful community and we hope you will join in on the recognition of all veterans's service to their nation.

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

The Springfield Community holds a Veterans Day ceremony each year. The American Legion Post 228 will lead the observance on **Friday, November 11th at 11am at Veteran's Park** on the corner of Shunpike Road and Mountain Avenue.

To all veterans, especially our church members and friends - THANK YOU!
God Bless America!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS – SUNDAY, NOV. 6, 2022



A reminder to turn back your clocks one hour before you retire for the evening on Saturday, November 5th to end Daylight Savings Time. One extra hour of sleep on Sunday is a blessing!

PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Join the weekly on-line prayer meetings on **Monday mornings at 8am and Friday afternoons at 4pm.**

The Zoom link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86941297429?pwd=bkxBTzNSVk1yT09TdWZxTXFSS0dGdz09>



SANTA'S HELPERS WORKSHOP REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!

Santa's Helpers are back this year and Mrs. Guida has organized a fun evening on Friday, December 9th from 6:30pm- 9pm in the Parish House Auditorium.

Registration is free to active members and \$20 per child for non-members. Children create gifts to surprise their family and friends in a fun and supervised space. See registration forms on the information table, or contact Mrs. Guida at 908-447-7399. Space is limited.





From the Desk of Pastor Lindsey

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

I want to share A Word of Cheer
from the Booklet, *Bountiful Blessings* by Grace E. Easley.

When you are feeling kind of low
And skies are somewhat grey,
And there is not a friend nearby
To brighten up the way...
And when in spite of everything
You've tried so hard to do,
It seems that all your well-laid plans
Will not work out for you.
When you are feeling sick at heart
And sick of body, too,
And muscles don't respond the way
They always used to...
When you are looking for the sun
And there is only rain,
My prayers for you will always get
You on your feet again.
Because through times you need someone
To really, truly care,
Look closely deep within your soul,
And you will find me there.
And so today I think of you,
And though we're miles apart,
I hope you'll feel the love I send,
From deep down in my heart.

As your Pastor, I will always be there to pray for you whenever you need me. Just call me, and I will be there in a hurry. Amen!

John 14:27 New Living Translation

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So, don't be troubled or afraid."

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Madelynne Lindsey



PRAYERS FOR THE MOMENT BY CHRIS CURRIE

The International Monument to the Reformation, commonly known as the Reformers' Wall, is located in Geneva, Switzerland. Photo by TomTyler/ Pixabay



O Lord our God, on Reformation Sunday we remember the complex legacy of our church. Grant us the internal space to view the ancestors of our faith as their whole selves, gifts and sins together. We remember the courage and stubborn boldness of Martin Luther but cannot reconcile his faith and passion with his fervent antisemitism. We remember the attention to detail of John Calvin, who taught that the church has a responsibility to care for all of society from sewers to schooling. Yet we also confess Calvin's penchant for policy sometimes made Geneva a rather dreary place without nuance for Anabaptists. We remember the boldness of John Knox, who took a stand in the political realm even venturing to lecture monarchs. And we acknowledge his iconoclasm and puritanical impulses left little room for faithful artistic expression. We give thanks for the beautiful legacy of the Reformation: for the resurgence of the humanities and the gift of reading Scripture and offering our prayers to you in our own tongue, for the examples of those who resisted government overreach and abuse of power, for those who stayed true to their conscience in the face of great loss. We carry these lessons with us knowing they came at a great cost. Before you, we also name those unsung heroes of the Reformation, women like Marguerite de Navarre and Katharina von Zimmern, who offered gifted insight and political protection to those who might otherwise have been put to death violently or left unable to carry out their reforms. On this Reformation Sunday, we also pray for harmony across denominations, knowing that unity is central to your being. We pray for our Roman Catholic siblings in Christ, alongside other ecclesial traditions, confessing that in many cases, it is mainly culture, political polarization, and familial customs that separate us more than differences in doctrine, practice, or the source of our common faith in Jesus Christ. Teach us, O God, that perhaps the greatest lesson of the Reformation comes to us from Calvin's unmarked grave. Preserve us from our desire for earthly monuments, keep us from wasting our precious time wringing our hands over ecclesial self-preservation, and re-direct us from worshipping the past and enshrining our dead heroes. Through the gift of baptism, you have not only called clergy or special Christians or only some of us, but you have called each one of us to use our God-given gifts to reflect your grace and glory, to impact this world for Christ's sake, and to engage in activities that enable our neighbors to thrive and flourish in this world you so love. To that end, help us to rejoice in the legacy of the Reformation, to be a church that embraces our role in the public sphere alongside Christians of other traditions and people of other faiths. In our life together, make us an ever-closer likeness of your beloved community. And outside the walls of our community of faith, enable us each to pursue a life, not of completion, but one that looks to the future with confidence that your Holy Spirit will bring all things to their proper end. Until then, may we be "reformed and being always reforming," not as a principle in and of itself, but according to your Word, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Chris Currie is senior pastor at St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church in New Orleans



The Annual Springfield Community Thanksgiving Service will be held at 7pm on Monday, November 21, 2022, hosted by Temple Sha'arey Shalom at their new location in the Saint James School building, 41 South Springfield Avenue, Springfield, NJ 07081. FPC clergy will be participating.



3-Linda Chelis	13-Ted Doll
6-Ronald Dubiel	13-Leo Shapiro
7-Russell A. Werner, Sr.	14-Heather Francis
9-Christian Finnerty	16-Kayleigh Scott
11-Dale Doremus	21-Arthur Biber
12-Isla Scott	26-Greg Clarke
12-Diane Mauriello	26-Rev. Roberto Fois
	28- Maraaret Doremus

PLEASE NOTE: BIRTHDAYS ARE PROVIDED FROM OUR DATA BASE. (MONTH AND DAY ONLY) IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS MISSING FROM OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE WITH YOUR INFO SO THAT IT WILL BE INCLUDED NEXT TIME.

SESSION VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM:

There will be no meeting in November
 The next meeting will be Monday, December 5th at 7pm via zoom.



In Memoriam...Kenneth D. Hendrix The sympathy of the Congregation is extended to the family and friends of Kenneth D. Hendrix, who died on October 5, 2022. He faithfully served this church as a Deacon, Elder and many terms as a Trustee from 1976 until he moved to Pennsylvania in 1998. He continued his connection to this church for the following 24 years and his funeral service was conducted on October 22nd in our sanctuary. Ken was predeceased by his wife of 37 years, Dorothy, and an infant daughter, Gayle. He is survived by his children, Valerie Yacik (Steve) and Brian Hendrix (Jacqueline) and their families, and his partner of 24 years, Patricia Girke.

Church Sexton, Steven Wichik A twenty-year employee of First Presbyterian Church, after retiring from the NYC public schools. Steve died suddenly on October 26, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Daniella, and his twin children, Steven and Daniella. Steve was well-traveled, multi-lingual, interested in trivia and poetry, and could not resist re-purposing bicycles found at curbs on bulk day! His priority in life was always his family, and he will be missed by all who had the pleasure to know him and his kind heart.



November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 All Saints Day	2	3	4	5 Turn back clocks tonight.
6 Daylight Savings Ends	7	8 	9	10	11 	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Adult Paint and Sip (Sold out!) 6:30pm
20 Thanksgiving Sunday	21 Community Thanksgiving Service 7pm at Saint James School -7pm	22	23	24 Thanksgiving Day 	25 Office Closed	26 Rev. Fois' birthday! 
27 First Sunday of Advent 	28	29	30	<p>Pastor Lindsey: madelynne_lindsey@yahoo.com Mobile: 973-714-0741</p> <p>Rev. Fois: RFois@springfieldpresbyterian.org Mobile: 908-240-6000</p> 		

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield

Sanctuary/Chapel: 210 Morris Avenue
 Office/Parish House: 37 Church Mall
 Springfield, NJ 07081

Phone: 973-379-4320
 Fax: 973-379-8883
 Email: office@springfieldpresbyterian.org

No matter who you are,
 or where you are in your life's journey,
 you are welcome here.

A Message from Rev. Roberto Fois

“It’s So Much Friendlier with Two”

Two people are better than one, for they get a better return for their work. For if one flags, the other gives support; but woe to the solitary person who falls and has no one to provide support.

One alone is easily overpowered; two provide protection for each other; and a rope of three strands is not easily broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:9, 11-12 Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward.

When Loretta and I had our first child, my mother-in-law gave us a Winnie the Pooh full bedroom set. I mean full... Crib linen and coverlet, comforter, mobile, wall hanging, and even a strip that we glued above the wainscoting. (OK, I admit it, my mother-in-law was a bit obsessed with this character – she even names her dog Pooh – but it was all very cute.)

As you know, Pooh likes honey and is known for simple but profound wisdom, like his saying, “It’s so much friendlier with two.” There are many sayings praising the virtue of sharing the load, celebrating the value of companionship, of supporting one-another in our pursuits.

There are, however, just as many or more pressure points in society pushing us to go at it alone, to win or lose on our own, to take the risk and reap the reward that belongs to us individually.

Well, it’s better with two ... or more. When we try to address any issue, when we try to solve a puzzling, perplexing, or infuriating life issue, it’s just so much better to go at it together.

Worshiping is not an individual pursuit. Serving the community is not a solitary endeavor. Living is not a solitary enterprise. We need and depend on each other; we live for each other.

As we celebrate Reformation Sunday and All Saints Day, el Dia de los Muertos, let us remember that we are in this together; let us consider how we connect with each other and together face whatever life sends our way. The reformers opposed private piety connected with individual indulgences. The Saints who came before us died in the pursuit of a life dedicated to the love of neighbor. Let us learn from them and emulate them.

Consider that even when it comes to God, we worship a unity of three distinct persons, inseparable, but distinguishable one from the other. So it is with people; yes, we are individual persons, but we are also an inseparable collective that will prosper when we act as one or will perish when we don’t.



Prayer: Dear God, I have no straps in my boots to lift myself up, but I have sisters and brothers who will link arms with each other and with me and lift me up. Give us all, I pray, the strength to do so, consistently, faithfully, gracefully. For your glory, Amen.

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

stamp

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PLACE LABEL HERE

*Thankful*

**Worship each Sunday at 10:15am
In-person and live-streamed on YouTube:
FirstPresbyterianChurchSpringfield
Or find the link on our website: www.SpringfieldPresbyterianChurch.org**