

THE REFORMED
CHURCH
OF FREEHOLD

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DEMONSTRATING GOD’S
RECONCILING LOVE

Dates to Remember

JULY

- 4 Thursday Happy Fourth of July!
- 7 Sunday Worship, 10 AM, Communion
- 9 Tuesday Consistory, 6:30 PM
- 14 Sunday Worship, 10 AM
- 21 Sunday Worship, 10 AM
Music Sunday-Max’d Out Trio
Vision Meeting, 11:30-1:30
- 28 Sunday Worship, 10 AM

AUGUST

- 4 Sunday Worship 10 AM, Communion
- 10 Saturday BlueClaws Game, 7:05 PM
Tailgating, 5:45 PM
- 11 Sunday Worship 10 AM
- 13 Tuesday Consistory, 6:30 PM
- 18 Sunday Worship ,10 AM
Music Sunday- Vocalist, Jackie Jones
Vision Meeting, 11:30-1:30
- 25 Sunday Worship 10 AM

News From the Pews

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4

JULY 1, 2019

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Memorial Day Parade

Many members of our church congregation and Sunshine Schoolhouse families gathered together on Monday, May 27 to March in Freehold Borough’s annual Memorial Day Parade. It was a beautiful day filled with fun, friendship, and most importantly reverence.



This year’s float was based on the poem, “In Flanders Fields”, written by John McCrae, who noticed red poppies growing near one of Flanders’ Fields’ mass cemeteries. The poem muses on the existence of poppies in a cemetery and encourages people to take up the torch in honor of their fallen countrymen. “In Flanders fields the poppies blow,” wrote McCrae, “Between the crosses, row on row.” It went on to become the war’s most popular and most recognized poem in the United States and Great Britain.

Members of our church, both young and old, gathered on Saturday, May 11 , and the following Sunday to create paper poppies to represent soldiers Freehold lost in conflicts since the beginning of the 20th century. All of the flowers were then displayed on our parade float with the help of our congregation. Special thanks go out to Rich and Lorraine Yoncak for the use of their trailer and for driving the float, Mrs. Susan Fox for organizing the poppy craft, and to all the members of our congregation who helped create the float and march in the parade. We had a wonderful day together remembering those who served our country.

Property

The lawns are being mowed weekly, shrub beds are cleaned, weeds controlled, and lime and fertilizer have been applied. The maple and dogwood trees at the parsonage have been trimmed of dead branches and the drainage pipes in the parsonage back yard have been cleaned and unclogged.

Larger numbers have been installed on the front of the church to make it easier to locate during emergencies. Before Easter, the Sanctuary carpets were spot cleaned and one of the toilets had to be repaired in the ladies room due to a loose bolt holding it down. A ballast was replaced as well as several bulbs in fellowship hall. We discovered that the sump pump for the wet mop sink would not stop running so it is currently unplugged and waiting on repair. It was also noticed that the nearby clean out spigot for hot water heater has a slow leak.

Pastor’s Pen

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Together we raised \$1,889 for Heifer international. Heifer’s matching grant fund almost doubled that amount. As we said throughout the project, Heifer does not simply provide hand-outs. They create ongoing development and prosperity through resources and training. Farm animals become small businesses that build futures. A key component to this work is paying the gift forward. Those who receive animals gift the first offspring to a community member. This not only builds economies, it builds community. In fact, the word economy is from the Greek *oikos*, meaning household, and the Latin *nemein*, meaning manage. Building an economy is to build a household of interconnected people, a community.

The church has its own economy. We are interconnected people who are a part of God’s family, God’s household. How do we build this economy? Like Heifer we pay it forward. We create community and connection by paying forward the blessing we have received. We have received the story of God’s love exposed in Jesus Christ, and we are invited to love. In other words, we pay it forward. Sometimes paying it forward feels counter-intuitive. Our instincts toward self-preservation tells us we won’t have enough down the road. Jesus invites us to act differently. Jesus tells us to love our neighbors, tells us who our neighbors are, and shows us the power of a self-sacrificial love, that is more powerful than the grave.

When asked about who our neighbors are, Jesus does not explain the minimal requirements. Jesus illustrates the blessing that comes to us through this command by telling the story of the good Samaritan. Jesus’ closing question is, “who was a neighbor?” Loving our neighbors brings God’s love back to us. We don’t love our neighbor to make God happy. We love our neighbor because it is how Jesus comes to us, reveals God’s love, and builds his body.

Our Vision team wants to find ways to build our household, to share and receive God’s love with our broader communities. Please attend our conversations in the coming months as we discover how to pay God’s love forward.

Peace,
Pastor David

Property

Please the join the Reformed Church of Freehold, First Baptist Church of Freehold, and First Presbyterian of Freehold for a Faith and Family Night with the Lakewood BlueClaws. The game will take place on August 10, 2019 at 7:05 PM with some pre-game tail gating as well. Tickets are \$10 for adults, seniors, and children. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the lobby. Please sign up by July 21 if you plan on attending. You can drop your checks off to Lauren in the Church Office. Please make checks payable to the Reformed Church of Freehold. We look forward to seeing many familiar faces at the game!

Service Listing

	Reader	Ushers	Coffee Hour Hosts
JULY			
7	L. Yoncak	J. Murphy & B. Barth	D. Ringwald & S. Sanicola
14	M. Jacobus	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	L. Yoncak & J. Perez
21	B. Barth	B. Barth & T. Bateman	M. Jacobus & D. Ringwald
28	L. Yoncak	J. Seifert & T. Bateman	J. Murphy & J. Krohn
AUGUST			
4	M. Jacobus	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	M. Jacobus & L. Yoncak
11	B. Barth	J. Seifert & B. Barth	R. Seifert & B. Lyon
18	L. Yoncak	J. Murphy & T. Bateman	G. Uchno & D. Ringwald
25	M. Jacobus	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	M. Jacobus & J. Perez
SEPTEMBER			
1	B. Barth	J. Murphy & B. Barth	J. Murphy & J. Krohn
8	S. Sanicola	B. Barth & T. Bateman	S. Sanicola & D. Ringwald
15	L. Yoncak	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	L. Yoncak & G. Uchno
22	B. Barth	J. Murphy & J. Seifert	R. Seifert & B. Lyon
29	M. Jacobus	T. Bateman & B. Barth	M. Jacobus & J. Perez

Birthdays and Anniversaries

JULY	AUGUST
1 Tom Bateman	1 Richard Biddle
4 Michael Murphy	1 Rev. David Groeneveld
12 Maggie Preston	3 Hans Krohn
13 Kevin Goetz	4 Irma Krohn
16 Eric Tiedemann III	6 Sofina Perez
22 Bill Starsinic	13 Melissa Dey
23 Ashley Biddle	20 Joyce Ojo
28 Carol & Tom Bateman	22 Kyle Dey
31 Carol Bateman	22 Ethan Tiedeman
	25 Bill Biddle



Reformed Church of Freehold

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67 W. Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728
(732) 462-1717

Pastor– David Groeneveld
dkgroeneveld@comcast.net
Organist/Choir Director– Bill Starsinic

Secretary– Lauren Redmond
office@freeholdreformed.org
Treasurer– Joe Perez

CONSISTORY 2018

Lorraine Yoncak– V.P., alt. Classis Delegate
Bill Barth–Classis Delegate

Jill Moore–Human & Financial Resources
Wilfred Ojo & Lorraine Yoncak–Buildings & Grounds
Michael Polifka & Lee Ann Newland – Worship & Music

Madeline Jacobus– Fellowship
Barb Lyon– Missions & Benevolences
Gabrielle Uchno– Education

Odds and Ends

Food Certificates

An easy way to support the church is by buying food gift certificates and it won't cost you a dime! The church earns 5% on every dollar you spend. It's a win-win. We have cards for ShopRite and Stop and Shop. See Susan Vilagi after church or stop in the office.

Flowers

If you would like to have flowers given in honor or memory of a loved one or event, please sign up on the Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the lobby. The cost is \$20. Please make checks payable to: "Reformed Church of Freehold" and mark it "flowers".

Secretary's Hours

Our secretary is here from 8:15 am -11:15 am Mon., Wed., Thurs., and Friday, Hours are subject to change as needed. As always, please feel free to contact Lauren at the office ahead of time to arrange to come in.

Mission of the Month: July & August

Our mission for July is Reformed Church Home's Resident Replacement Fund. The Home is committed to compassionate care of elders in a spiritual environment. Unfortunately, the Home's budget cannot cover all needs that elders have. The Fund is for replacing items such as eye glasses and hearing and dental aids for residents who do not have insurance or other financial means for these quality of life items. Please open your hearts and wallets during the month of July for financial support of this much needed program.

Our mission for August will be Dina's Dwellings. They are the largest housing program for survivors of domestic violence and their children in New Jersey. Dina's Dwelling is currently in need of the following items: Laundry detergent for High Efficiency machines ONLY, dryer sheets, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, toiletries, dish soap, cleaning supplies, Swiffer wet mopping cloth refills, coffee, tea, soups, food donations – canned and boxed items - non-perishables, gas cards, and supermarket cards. Their goal is to make a meaningful difference in the lives of their residents, and your donations are greatly appreciated.

Vision Meetings

A **survey of the congregation** was taken a several weeks ago in order to help us build a vision for our future. Let's start building that vision together. The first of a series of 8 conversations began on Sunday June 23 following worship. Please plan to join us on the following dates after church from 11:30 to 1:30 for these important conversations. Sandwiches will be provided, and child care will be available.

Session 1, A Bold Vision: June 23

Session 2, Discovering Our Context:
July 21 and August 18

Session 3, Define the Gap: September 22

Session 4, A Call to Mission: October

Session 5, Visualizing Our Mission: October

Session 6, Bring Down Barriers, November

Session 7, Keeping the Main Thing the Main
Thing: November

Session 8, A Question: December

Education

Thank you to all the teachers and helpers who made Sunshine Schoolhouse Sunday a success back in May. It was great fun to invite Sunshine to worship and have their students fill our Sunday School class. This year was bittersweet, however, since we learned Mrs. Susan Fox will be retiring from Sunshine at the close of the year. We wish Mrs. Fox well and have much to thank her for including her tips, which always helped us perfect our Sunshine Sunday crafts for the hands of little ones.



On June 16 a youthful spirit filled the sanctuary as the Sunday School children assisted Pastor David in leading the service. We listened and watched with pride as the children lead the responsive readings, read Bible passages and shared their heartfelt prayers with us. The children also performed two beautiful songs under the direction of Lee Ann Newland and John Lambert. A fun rap version of "Jesus Loves Me" got the congregation on their feet clapping and rapping along and of course smiling from ear to ear. The children did an amazing job and what a wonderful way to close out the Sunday School year!

The covered dish party that followed was great fellowship time too. A big thanks to Fellowship for their part in organizing and thank you to everyone who brought a dish. Last but not least we hope the dads enjoyed their Father's Day surprise, personalized Hershey bars! The children worked hard on coloring the special wrappers designed by Rebecca Seifert. My lovely bouquet of flowers were an unexpected surprise to say the least, but very much appreciated. I don't work alone and I know I am so fortunate to have so many volunteers who I can turn to at anytime. Thank you to all!

Music Sunday's:

This July we are pleased to have the Max'd Out! Trio join us for Music Sunday. Max'd Out! is a trio that does not conform itself to any particular musical style or genre. The overriding concept of what they do is that it is just good music, and it is good music based around the concepts of improvisation from any and all forms.



The members of Max'd Out!, Anders Bostrom on flutes and wind controller, John Priori on piano and keyboards; Max Morden on trumpets, guitar and vocals, find their inspiration in a variety of music from classical through Broadway.

Their concerts are filled with engaging and beautiful original songs as well as music from hymn tunes to Emerson, Lake, and Palmer. The unique fusing of materials is one that will keep you interested from beginning to end.

This August the Reformed Church of Freehold is proud to have Jackie Jones join us for Music Sunday. You will want to invite your friends to join us. Ms. Jones delivers a brand of performance excellence and professionalism that places her among an elite category of vocalists of exceptional caliber and unsurpassed capability. Her presence on the greater Newark/New Brunswick/New York Metro jazz scene is nothing short of prolific – it speaks volumes about what she has achieved since her emergence in the late 70's and early 80's — a musical journey that has carried her to destinations near and afar.



A product of the Jazz program at Rutgers University – she studied with a coalition of legendary talents led by bassist Dr. Larry Ridley, pianist Kenny Barron, alto saxophonist James Spaulding, vibraphonist Steve Nelson and drummer Keith Copeland who established a program of world renown during the late 70's, 80's and 90's, Jackie received a solid foundation in composition and performance at the Mason Gross School of the Arts while earning a degree in psychology. A Newark native, she is a graduate of the fabled Arts High School where she studied flute and vocals – her fellow alumnus, a few decades her senior, is none other than the legendary vocalist Sarah Vaughan.

Among her career achievements, Jackie has been blessed to establish musical associations with many noteworthy talents including: appearing as the opening act for Lou Rawls, as well as performing with a host of jazz luminaries such as — saxophonist Houston Person, vibraphonist Roy Ayres, pianist Nat Adderley Jr., guitarist Jimmy Ponder, Bassist Christian McBride and drummers Winard Harper and Cecil Brooks, III. Her abundant talents have carried her overseas to perform at festivals in Russia, Berlin and Switzerland while at home, she makes regular appearances at local music festivals. www.jackiejones.com.

Sunshine Schoolhouse May/June

A **special thank you** to the congregation for the fabulous Church Service and refreshments on Sunday, May 19, 2019. We were thrilled to celebrate **13 years** of working and growing together. Thank you to our wonderful past and present liaisons, Madeline Jacobus, Irma Krohn and Lorraine Yoncak, for all of your help and support. We greatly appreciate all that you do for the staff and children of Sunshine! We loved the beautiful roses. Also, it was a special joy to honor Susan Fox, our 3 Year Old program head teacher and her 22 years of service! We wish her fun-filled days ahead as she begins her retirement. Thank you to the Sunday School teachers who planned such fabulous activities for the children and to all of our church friends who made this day so memorable!

The children, families and teachers of Sunshine Schoolhouse were thrilled by the congregation's warm welcome. We hope everyone enjoyed the songs and motions of our musical presentation. Thank you, Pastor David for your encouragement and kindness throughout the school year. We are so pleased to be a part of your church family. Thank you again for such an uplifting day of worship and fellowship!

Our participation in the Freehold Borough's Memorial Day Parade along with the Church's patriotic float was a tremendous success! The teachers, parents, and children did a wonderful job representing our preschool and honoring our military. Thank you to everyone who participated with us on this very special day!

Our final day of school was on Friday, June 14. On Monday, June 17 and Tuesday, June 18, the staff members cleaned the classrooms and reorganized their materials. Susan and Lois will be working throughout the summer, preparing for the 2019 – 2020 School Year, and visitors are always welcome and encouraged!

The teachers will be returning in mid-August to begin preparing the classrooms for the new arrivals. Our tentative Orientation Open House dates are scheduled for Thursday, September 5 and Friday, September 6, 2019.

A variety of classes are still available for the upcoming school year. If you have a friend or neighbor who would like to receive information about our programs for September, please have them give us a call at (732) 409-2636.

Thank you again for sharing your Church home with the families of Sunshine Schoolhouse. We are grateful everyday for your generosity and support. Best wishes for a relaxing summer!

Yours In Christ,
Susan Frank, Lois Furlong,
and the Staff of Sunshine Schoolhouse

