

THE REFORMED
CHURCH
OF FREEHOLD

67 W. Main Street
Freehold NJ 07728

Phone: 732-462-1717

Email:

DEMONSTRATING GOD’S
RECONCILING LOVE

Dates to Remember

March

2 Saturday	Roast Beef Dinner
3 Sunday	Worship, 10 AM, Communion
6 Wednesday	Ash Wednesday
10 Sunday	Worship, 10 AM
12 Tuesday	Consistory, 6:30 PM
13 Wednesday	Lenten Lunch, Bethel AME Church
17 Sunday	Worship, 10 AM, Music Sunday Happy St. Patrick’s Day
20 Wednesday	Lenten Lunch, Reformed Church
22 Friday	Movie Night, 7 PM
23 Saturday	EHAP Art Auction
24 Sunday	Worship, 10 AM
27 Wednesday	Lenten Lunch, St. Robert Bellarmine
31 Sunday	Worship, 10 AM

April

3 Wednesday	Lenten Lunch, First United Methodist
7 Sunday	Worship 10 AM, Communion
10 Wednesday	Lenten Lunch , First Presbyterian Church
14 Sunday	Worship 10 AM
16 Tuesday	Consistory 6:30 PM
19 Friday	Good Friday, Lenten Lunch, First Baptist at Noon
21 Sunday	Easter Worship ,10 AM
28 Sunday	Worship 10 AM

News From the Pews

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

MARCH 1, 2019

REFORMED CHURCH OF FREEHOLD
DEMONSTRATING GOD’S RECONCILING LOVE

Education

In the spirit of sharing God's love and reminding our senior church members and the women and children of Dina's Dwellings they are loved by God, the Sunday School along with the help of the congregation, made special Valentine gift bags for them. After the bags brimming with edible and nonedible treats were delivered, a flurry of messages were received from the recipients expressing their utmost appreciation for being remembered. Special thanks to Thrivent Financial for sponsoring this event!

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During Lent the Sunday School invites everyone to join our Coins for Lent Calendar Project. During this season we meditate on Christ's sacrifice for us and we look for ways that Christ may work through us. One of the ways Christ can work through us is by helping others in need. The money collected from our project will be donated to our March and April Missions of the Month, Heifer International. **Heifer International** is a global nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable, values-based community development. Heifer distributes animals, along with agricultural and values-based training, to families in need around the world as a means of providing self-sufficiency. Recipients must agree to "pass on the gift" by sharing animal offspring, as well as the skills and knowledge of animal husbandry and agricultural training with other impoverished families.

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Pastor’s Pen

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ,

Thank you for your generous Christmas gift. The January February went out so quickly after I was back from a family visit it did not contain a very important thank you. THANK YOU for your generous, thoughtful, and caring Christmas gift. Because the gift coming as a sincere offering from the whole congregation truly touched my heart. The caring expressions that come out of the Reformed Church of Freehold are truly beautiful. I experience those in many ways on a regular basis. The Christmas gift is one such expression. Your kindness and thoughtfulness after my surgery is another such expression of care. There are so many others on a daily basis they are too many to name.

While I am thanking you, let me also thank you for taking time to complete the congregational surveys. Thanks those in church on Sunday, February 24 to complete the survey. Thank you to those who could not be here on Sunday who took time to complete them at home and then return them to the church. They will be very helpful as we plan for ministry.

Thank you also for the many ways you chip in when and where you can. So many things happen here without anyone noticing or it being written down anywhere. Thank you for a network of relationships that attend to one another’s needs, joys, and sorrows. Thank you for dusting, vacuuming, mopping, dish washing, coffee hour hosting, for picking up sticks, coffee cup lids, dropped pacifiers, and parking curbs. Thank you for all you do beyond the walls and membership of this faith community. The reach of this congregation goes with you into the workplace, the market, extended families, and neighborhoods through your caring hearts and act of love.

Thank you for responding to Christ’s call, celebrating Christ’s blessings, and being a blessing to others. May you continue through the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God our creator, and the strength of the Holy Spirt.

Pastor David

Reformed Church Women

Thank you to all that participated in our Valentine Tea. It was an opportunity to celebrate love, God's love for us, our love for each other and our love of the delicious home made sandwiches, scones, desserts and teas. We would like to remind all that Love is an action verb, you must take action to show your love not just say the word. This is true with the command from God to Love thy neighbor as thyself, don't just recite the words each week, take actions that express that love.

We will have our March RCW meeting on the 10th during fellowship time. We will discuss upcoming Spring events: Sculpture Garden trip, Lenten Lunch, Easter mission and work on a craft.

On March 20th we will be hosting a Lenten Luncheon that can include sandwiches, soup, salad and deserts for approximately 100 people. There is a sign up sheet in the lobby or you can call Lorraine 732-462-9703 if you would like to bring a food item, make a donation towards supplies, help set up, serve or cleanup the event. Any and all help will be appreciated.



Service Listing

	Reader	Ushers	Coffee Hour Hosts
March	3 L. Yoncak	M. Polifka & B. Barth	L. Yoncak & D. Ringwald
	10 M. Jacobus	T. Bateman & J. Seifert	R. Seifert & M. Jacobus
	17 B. Barth	B. Barth & J. Murphy	J. Murphy & J. Krohn
	24 S. Sanicola	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	L. Yoncak & G. Uchno
April	31 A. Craven	J. Seifert & B. Barth	A. Craven & H. McKenzie
	7 L. Yoncak	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	S. Sanicola & D. Ringwald
	14 M. Jacobus	J. Seifert & T. Bateman	M. Jacobus & R. Seifert
	21 B. Barth	B. Barth & J. Murphy	J. Murphy & J. Krohn
May	28 A. Craven	M. Polifka & M. Polifka	A. Craven & H. McKenzie
	5 S. Sanicola	J. Seifert & T. Bateman	D. Ringwald & S. Sanicola
	12 L.Yoncak	J. Murphy & B. Barth	L. Yoncak & J. Perez
	19 M. Jacobus	M. Polifka & M.Polifka	M. Jacobus & G. Uchno
	26 B. Barth	B. Barth & T. Bateman	J. Murphy & J. Krohn

Property

Spring is only a few weeks away and everybody wants to do some Spring Cleaning right? At our church home we have a list in the lobby of small tasks that you can help with so that our church home will be as happy and healthy as our private homes. I'm not sure if the quote "Cleanliness is next to Godliness" is from the Bible but if it inspires anyone to get some cleaning done I'll use it. Thank you to all that have been cleaning this winter, it shows.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

January		February	
2 Louise Beams	11 Lois Furlong	4 John Seifert	27 Bethany Sanicola
5 Andrea Tiedemann	12 Christina Furie	4 Kenneth Goetz	
7 Janet Murphy	12 Lauren Redmond	11 Sidney Ulm	
9 Lynne Morano	21 Brian Ringwald	21 Wilfred Ojo	
	21 Michael Polifka	23 Ryan Morano	



Thank You

Dear Friends of the Freehold Reformed Church, My heart has been deeply touched by the kindness shared at the passing of my beloved sister, Marilyn. Thank you to all those who so graciously expressed sympathy and supported my family and me at this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness will never be forgotten. Special thanks to David for conducting a beautiful service and for giving our family the considerate support we all needed. We are blessed to have you all in our lives. - Susan Fox & Family

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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

John Carrig– 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.

Education continued

Based in Little Rock, Arkansas, United States, Heifer International started with a shipment of 17 heifers to Puerto Rico in 1944. Since 1944, Heifer International has distributed livestock such as goats, bees, and water buffalo, along with training and other resources, to 20.7 million families, or more than 105.1 million people in more than 125 countries. Instead of simply sending cash, donors choose what kind of animal or resources their money will buy. Once the donations are tallied, the children will then vote for which animals they would like to contribute. No doubt there will be many options to help these families break the cycle of poverty - ducks, chicks, rabbits, goats, and more! Stay tuned for an update in our next newsletter. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

Please mark your calendars for important upcoming Sunday School events! On Easter, April 21, the children are invited to take part in an Easter egg hunt during Sunday School. On May 19 we look forward to hosting the Sunshine Schoolhouse Preschool. The children will learn about the story of Zacchaeus that day. Looking ahead to June, the children will lead the service on the 17th! If you are interested in helping with Sunday School please contact Gabrielle Uchno at 732-233-2129.

Worship

The Freehold Clergy Association is sponsoring **Ecumenical Services for Lent**. They will take place on Wednesdays in March and April with lunch at noon, service at 12:30, and lunch offered again at 1 pm. **Good Friday service will begin at noon**. For more information contact Jen Perry at: jperry@strobert.cc or 732-462-7429, ext. 141.

March 13

Bethel AME Church
3 Waterworks Road, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Rev. Jonathan Elsensohn
Pastor of First Baptist Church

March 20

Reformed Church of Freehold
67 W. Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Pat Medley
Lutheran Pastor

March 27

Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine
61 Georgia Road, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Rev. Alan Olsen,
Pastor at First Presbyterian Church

April 3

First United Methodist
91 W. Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Bishop Frederick Rubin
Pastor at Community Refuge Church

April 10

First Presbyterian Church
118 W. Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Rev. Wil Wilson,
Pastor at First United Methodist

Good Friday, April 19

First Baptist Church
81 W. Main Street, Freehold, NJ 07728
Guest Preacher: Sharon Douglas,
Chaplain at CentraState Medical Center

Emergency Housing and Advocacy Program Art Auction

Freehold, NJ, January 14, 2019 – EHAP will host its first Charity Art Auction on March 23, 2019, raising funds to support its mission to assist, empower, and educate individuals who are homeless in securing housing and other benefits that will ultimately ensure their ability to live independently with self-determination. The event will be held at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine, Dentici Hall, 61 Georgia Rd, Freehold, NJ 07728.

The evening begins at 7:00PM with a preview where guests will have the opportunity to view a vast variety of artwork (in a wide variety of media and price ranges), being presented for auction, and gift baskets for raffle. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served during the preview with beautiful background music. During this time guests may mingle with guests, discuss the artwork, and meet representatives of EHAP to learn more about how this vital organization serves the vulnerable of our community. At 8:00PM the evening will continue with an opportunity for attendees to bid on their favorite works. It's sure to be a wonderful evening raising spirits as well as funds for EHAP, so the organization may continue to provide for those in need in our community. **To buy tickets (\$20 per person), make a donation, or view the EHAP video, visit: tix.ehapinc.org. For more information about the event, call: 732.934.4250 or email: info@ehapinc.org**

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Music Sunday

On the third Sunday of each month, additional music will be featured as a way to enhance our worship. This month we are pleased to have Patricia Lazzara and Darren O'Neill. Patricia Lazzara, flutist, has distinguished herself as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. She is a three time winner of the Artists International competition in New York City and gave her critically acclaimed New York recital debut at Cami Hall. Ms. Lazzara has performed at Carnegie Hall several times and at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Patricia has performed as soloist for the National Flute Association Professional Flute Choir and won first prize in the North Jersey Philharmonic Concerto Competition. Ms. Lazzara is a Miyazawa Flute Artist, (www.miyazawa.com), is the 2007 Winner of the Florida Flute Association Performers Grant for Advanced Study and a 2004 Winner of the National Flute Association Convention Performers Competition. Ms. Lazzara is also a founding member of UpTown Flutes (UTF), one of the premier flute ensembles performing today.



She attended Carnegie Mellon University and received a Bachelor of Music Degree from the Hartt School of Music where she studied with John Wion, has appeared in master classes with Jean Pierre Rampal, Thomas Nyfenger, Robert Stallman, Trevor Wye and has coached with Jeanne Baxtresser, Michael Parloff and Bart Feller. She also studied with Paige Brook and David Williams.

Darren O'Neill earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Castleton State University in Vermont and his Master of Arts degree in Music from Montclair State University. Both degrees centered about guitar performance. He earned his Master of Library Service degree from Rutgers University. He is currently Coordinator of Guitar Studies in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University as well as the Assistant Director of the Morris County Library in Whippany, NJ.

As a member of *Trio Briosio* (flute, viola, and guitar) Mr. O'Neill gave his Carnegie Hall debut in 1997 as the result of winning the Artists International New York Debut Competition that year. As a member of the *Nova Segno Duo* (with Dennis Cinelli), he has performed and recorded on antique instruments from the historic collection at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Mr. O'Neill has recorded three, solo CDs – *The French Connection*, *American Crossroads*, and *Celtic Keepsake*– and a world premiere recording of flute and guitar suites by Dennis Cinelli (1953-2012) entitled *A Piper's Ayre*. Mr. O'Neill has also had a featured article published in Soundboard (Journal of the Guitar Foundation of America) entitled "A Survey of Select Nineteenth-Century Chamber Works by Guitarists of the Period" (winter 2010). Mr. O'Neill is also an honorary member of both Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia (music) and Alpha Psi Omega

Sunshine Schoolhouse January/February

March is always full of surprises . . . the children will be counting the "stormy lion" and "sunny lamb" days throughout the month. As Spring arrives, watch for signs of new life celebrating our Savior's resurrection in the next few weeks. The children will be creating colorful butterflies for the lounge to highlight the joy of learning about Jesus and his life!

We are currently registering students for the 2019 – 2020 School Year. A variety of spaces are still available for many of the programs. Please encourage any interested friends or neighbors to contact us at the school office (732) 409-2636 for additional information.

For our Spring Class Trip, the children, parents and staff members will be traveling to the Novins Planetarium at Ocean County College, Toms River. We are looking forward to wonderful trips to learn more about the stars and planets the week of March 4, 2019. Photos of our adventures will be posted in the lounge.

Sunshine Schoolhouse will be closed for Easter vacation on Good Friday, April 19 through Friday, April 26, 2019. School will reopen on Monday, April 29, 2019. Christ Is Risen! Easter Blessings to All!

It is such a pleasure to be greeted each day with smiles, hugs and genuine best wishes from every member of this congregation! We are truly blessed to have this opportunity to work together to share God's love. Your kindness and welcoming approach to the families and staff members of Sunshine Schoolhouse is a blessing that we greatly appreciate.

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

Holy Week

Holy Week marks the most sacred part of the Christian Story as we move from the festivities of Palm Sunday processions through the betrayal of Maundy Thursday, Jesus' loving sacrifice on the cross, to the world changing triumph of Easter morning, which defeats the bonds of death. Plan to journey with us during this sacred time. Palm Sunday begins the Holy Week story on Sunday, April 14. Be with us at our 10 A.M. worship to receive palm branches from our youth. On Maundy Thursday, April 18, we remember the institution of the Lord's Supper and Jesus' betrayal. Celebrate the victory of the cross on Easter morning. Following worship youth will hunt for Easter eggs in the yard. Plan now to be with us for the telling of God's love revealed in the Holy Week story.

