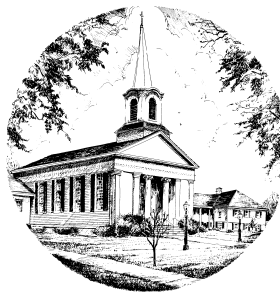


CONTACT



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South Branch Reformed Church

**870 River Road
Hillsborough, NJ
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f @SBRChurch

📷 sbrchurch

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School is back in full swing. Staff and students are happy to be back and sharing their Sunday mornings together learning God's Word.

We'll give thanks during the month of November for our Church, family, and friends. To show our gratitude we are asking that students bring non-perishable food items for the food pantry to class each Sunday in November.



All children ages 2-1/2 – 7th grade are invited to join us every Sunday morning. The Sunday School staff is excited to continue along this journey with their students.

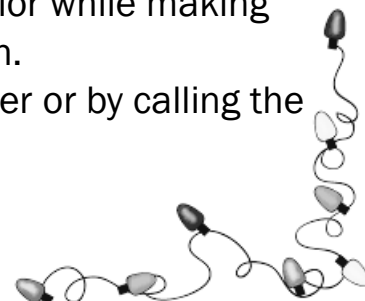
Holiday Lights Hayride

Kick off the Christmas Season with your South Branch Reformed Church Family at
Norz Hill Farm and Market
120 South Branch Road, Hillsborough, NJ.
Sunday, December 3rd at 5:30 PM

Festive lights, interactive holiday displays and a ride around the farm will bring back what really matters this holiday season—celebrating the birth of our Savior while making memories you will cherish.

Sign up during any coffee hour in November or by calling the Church office.

\$12.00 per ticket





November Birthdays:

- 3 Joe Foley
- 6 Holly Kowalenko
- 18 Betty York
- 24 Joanne Powell
- 25 Jan Hubscher



November Anniversaries

- 2 Thomas & Danielle Marshall
- 13 Patrick & Danielle Dougherty
- 27 Joe & Irene Bogdan

TREASURER'S NOTES

September is here with its warm days and cool nights. The church has shed its summer pace and has awakened with numerous activities. Our pledges both online and in person totaled over \$10,000. Several of you sent in your classis dues of \$100 per member. Our ham dinner was very successful, yielding a profit of nearly \$2,200.



Unfortunately, September was a month when many large quarterly payments are made. We also had a couple unexpected repairs as well as a lawn service bill. We began September, \$5,816 in the red and sadly ended the month \$15,980 in the red.

What can we do to reduce this deficit and get our current expense budget back in the black? We can catch up on our pledges. Send in our classis dues. Come out and support our remaining two church dinners. We can do this people.

May God continue to bless SBRC and its members.

~ Robyn Friedlander

TAKEOUT ROAST TURKEY DINNER

SBRC will be holding a Roast Turkey Dinner on Saturday, November 18th from 4:00 to 6:30 PM with Chef Tyson presiding over the kitchen. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Call (908) 369-4956 for tickets or make your reservations by visiting: app.gopassage.com/events/turkey-dinner1

The Dining Room is open for you to join us in-person!

If taking your dinner to go, please remember to bring your reusable bag!

MENU

Roast Turkey with Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Herbed Stuffing
Candies Sweet Potatoes
Green Beans with Craisins
Cole Slaw
Cranberry Sauce
Dinner Rolls
Assorted Desserts
Coffee, Hot Tea,
Lemonade, Iced Tea



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & COVERED DISH LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 19, 2023** for the first of two Congregational Meetings immediately followship. We gather in the Dining Room after the meeting for lunch and fellowship. We will discuss the presentation of the Proposed 2024 Budget as well as receive Nominations for individuals to serve on the Consistory and the Endowment Committee.



Sunday bulletins will have Nomination Forms. Prior to submitting it, please be sure that the individual your are nominating agrees to serve. A sign-up sheet for the Covered Dish Luncheon is on the *Church News* bulletin board,

These are important meetings for SBRC and we hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Steve.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNERS

As we all can agree, prices over the last few years have skyrocketed in all areas of daily living! Those who live with food insecurity are truly vulnerable as they have to find ways to feed their families. With this in mind, SBRC is keeping up the annual tradition of collecting food items to provide two complete Thanksgiving Dinners for members in our community through the Hillsborough Food Pantry.



A sign-up sheet has been posted on the *Church News* bulletin board in the main hallway. I ask that you prayerfully consider participating in this event to bring a bit of joy in the lives of those around us.

All items need to be at the church on or before Sunday, November 12th so that they can be delivered to the Hillsborough Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued care and love for those around us!

~ Ben Burt

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

November 1:

Exodus 17:1-7
 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-26
 or 25:1-9
 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32
 Philippians 2:1-13
 Matthew 21:23-32

November 8:

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9,
 12-20
 Psalm 19 or 80:7-15
 Isaiah 5:1-7
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 Matthew 21:33-46

November 15:

Exodus 32:1-14
 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
 or 23
 Isaiah 25:1-9
 Philippians 4:1-9
 Matthew 22:1-14

November 22:

Exodus 33:12-23
 Psalm 99 or 96:1-9
 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
 Matthew 22:15-22

November 29:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12
 Psalm 90: 1-6, 13-17
 or 1
 Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
 Matthew 22:34-46

FROM THE PASTOR...

Don't you just love Autumn? The weather has been outstanding. God's glory has been on full display from amazing sunsets to trees changing a wide spectrum of colors. Artists have been attempting to catch such beauty for centuries, but none can truly match the splendor that comes from our amazing God!

It has been busy around the church, and November proves to be just as busy. As you read through this month's issue, I hope that you have a calendar ready to mark down important dates for opportunities to gather. Be sure not to miss the upcoming Turkey Dinner on November 18th as well as the Congregational Meeting & Covered Dish Luncheon on November 19th.

There will be another Fire Pit Fellowship on Sunday, November 5th beginning at 5pm (if weather cooperates). If you have attended one of these in the past, you know that it is a good time! Please remember to bring your chair as well as beverages/snacks to share. Hope you consider joining us!

We are gearing up for the Advent Season which begins on December 3rd. I will be posting sign-up sheets for those interested in participating in worship. Soon the Sanctuary will be decorated and our worship will have that familiar SBRC Christmas feel.

Looking forward to worshipping with you all!



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Our annual Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on **Wednesday, November 22nd at 8pm** in the Sanctuary and via Zoom. Take a break from house cleaning and holiday preparations to join us in giving thanks to God for all of his continued blessings. We certainly have a lot to be thankful for - our health, our church, and our church family!



DECORATING THE SANCTUARY!

Join us on Sunday, November 26th during Coffee Hour as we decorate the Sanctuary for the Advent & Christmas Season! We will put up the garland, wreaths, and Christmas trees. A perfect opportunity to begin feeling the joy that this season brings as well as work together making the Sanctuary beautiful. Come out and have some fun!



As a reminder, in order to preserve their beauty & life, the poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on the Third Sunday of Advent.

175TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS & FUNDRAISING PLANS

Our 175th Anniversary Event is fast approaching, and the Committee members have been working on ideas to mark and celebrate the special year. Having overcome so many happy, sad, challenging and rewarding events in our history, we have so much to celebrate.

We've settled on a few events to be held between September 2024 and May 2025 which include:

Homecoming Sunday, September 22, 2024, at 10:00 – Sunday service and catered luncheon

Choir and Bell Choir Concert and Reception, February 23, 2025; Rain date March 2, 2025

Anniversary Service, Sunday, May 18, 2025 – 2:00pm and Dinner Dance in evening 4 – 9:00pm

To help defray the costs and make these events affordable to all, our Fundraising Committee has some ideas to begin start raising money.

\$175 Challenge: Beginning in November we are suggesting the **\$175 Challenge**. This plan is like our “Wall of Giving Challenge”. Each member of our congregation who would like to participate can take an envelope marked “175th Challenge” at the entrance into the sanctuary and can donate \$5 each Sunday for 35 Sundays which totals \$175 or enclose any amount they choose. This, like all fundraisers, is completely voluntary. Donate what you can. Any donation helps to make these events affordable for all in the end. We'll track the donation dollars on the bulletin board in the hallway. For tax recording, please write your name on the envelope before dropping it into the collection plate. Donations can also be made via on-line donations.



Ice Cream: SBRC will sell “ice cream of the month” for \$12 per quart. Flavors will change each month and will be announced the month prior to delivery. Prepay for your order with Debbie Norz (or any fundraising committee member - Irene Foley, Gillian Green, Nancy Murray) and allow 2 weeks prior to delivery date. This fundraiser will likely start at the beginning of the new year.

Talent Auction: Church members offer up a talent or service for auction on a specific Sunday (to be determined). It can be cooking a special dinner or dessert, rides to the airport, boat ride, babysitting etc. During Coffee Hour that Sunday, congregation members may bid on a talent or service they would like to receive. The highest bidder wins the service.



Calendar Raffle – Purchase tickets for a set price and a committee member will draw names each weekday for 12 weeks to win dollar amounts that vary on each day. You could win \$10 on Tuesday and \$20 on Friday. If your name is drawn, it goes right back into the pool. It is not excluded from future drawings.

Dine to Donate: This is always an easy way to raise funds. Just make a purchase of food at a participating restaurant during the agreed upon date/time (likely to occur during a weeknight). That business will donate 10% of profits for the purchase to South Branch Reformed Church.

So many fundraising options were discussed. These were voted as the most popular and easiest to execute. We hope you'll participate not only in the fundraising but especially in the special events. Any funds raised more than what is needed will be donated to the church's general fund.

Christmas Memorial Poinsettias

Christmas is a time of rejoicing and reflection. It is also time to order one or more poinsettias to help decorate our Sanctuary for Christmas. *Poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on the Third Sunay of Advent to help maintain their life & beauty!*

Memorial poinsettias designated “in memory of” or “in honor of” a friend or loved one, may be ordered by using the short form printed below. Just complete the form and return to Karen Abbatiello in the Church Office. If you do not want a poinsettia to take home, but wish to remember or honor a loved one, you may contribute to our Memorial Flower Fund instead.

The cost is \$9.00 each and the deadline for ordering is **Sunday, November 19th**. If paying by check, please write “Poinsettia” in the memo section.

☐ Poinsettia: # _____

OR

☐ Memorial Fund

Thank you



Name(s)	Relationship	Given by	Choose one
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Honor
			<input type="checkbox"/> In Memory

November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Choir 7:30pm in Parlor	3	4
5 Communion	6	7	8 Knit, Pray, Crochet 7:00pm at Stockman	9 Choir 7:30pm in Parlor	10	11
12	13	14	15 Consistory at 7:00pm in Parlor	16 Newsletter Items Due!! Choir 7:30pm in Parlor	17 Dinner Set-up at 7:00pm	18 Turkey Dinner 4:00-6:30pm
19 Congregational Meeting & Covered Dish Lunch Poinsettia Orders Due! Women's Group	20 Preschool Thanksgiving	21 Preschool Thanksgiving	22 Thanksgiving Eve Service 8:00pm	23 Happy Thanksgiving!	24	25
26 Decorate Sanctuary Book Club at 7:00pm via Zoom	27 175 th Committee meeting 7:00pm in Parlor	28	29	30 Choir 7:30pm in Parlor		

South Branch Reformed Church
870 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844



Live & Love Like Jesus

Rev. Stephen Eckert ~ Pastor
Mr. John Colaiacovo ~ Music Director
Mrs. Karen Abbatiello ~ Church Secretary
Mrs. Jennifer Feaster ~ Preschool Director
Mrs. Maritza Acosta ~ Sexton

REMINDER

Daylight Saving Time ends on
Sunday, November 5th!! Be
sure to set your clocks back
one (1) hour on Saturday
evening before going to bed.
If you don't, you will
probably beat
Pastor Steve
to the church
on Sunday!

