

# CONTACT

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***South Branch  
Reformed Church***

**870 River Road  
Hillsborough, NJ  
08844**

**Office: (908) 369-4956  
Fax: (908) 369-4602**

**Web:  
www.sbrchurch.org**

 **@SBRChurch**

 **sbrchurch**

## TREASURER'S NOTES

April was a great month here at SBRC. There have been several opportunities to get together to support our church and the response has been outstanding. I was happy to see so many of you come out to get down and dirty, pulling weeds, removing stumps, trimming bushes, and mulching around the property. The roast beef dinner was a tremendous success.



Thank you, Tyson, Tracy, and everyone who volunteered to work the dinner and provide the baked goods. We made a profit of \$2,278. Thank you to our Preschool for paying half of the 2024 plowing and salting bill. Finally, thank you to everyone that supported the clothing drive on April 16<sup>th</sup>. We made a profit of \$608 which was added to our 175<sup>th</sup> fundraising challenge. Make sure to check out the bulletin board in the hallway to see the donation thermometer rising.

Despite in-person church attendance being below average, we did have a great month financially. We began the month \$104 in the red. Expenses for April were average with no large or unexpected bills. I am happy to report, we ended April, \$3,510 in the black in our current expense budget. Way to go South Branch! Let us keep the momentum going.

May God continue to bless our church and its people.

~ Robyn Friedlander

## IN CELEBRATION!

On Sunday, May 26th, SBRC celebrated the Sacrament of Baptism and welcomed Eleanora Juliette Reese, daughter of Amanda (Simon) & Cody Reese, in our church family. We pray that God's continued blessings and protection be with her and her family!



Please be sure to join us on Sunday, June 2nd as SBRC gathers in worship & praise, but also to welcome our newest members into the SBRC family - Jessica Estevez and Azucena "Susan" Estevez! We continue to pray that God's blessings will be upon you and the church as we worship & work together.





**June Birthdays:**

- 1 Danielle Burt
- 2 Mateo Akhdim
- 4 Mike Mastrosimone
- 8 Jennette Neske
- 11 Azucena Estevez
- 12 William Munro
- 13 Nathaniel Sarles
- 22 Kelly Stabile
- 27 Kim Kowalchuk
- 28 Armando Franco



**June Anniversaries:**

- 15 William & Rebecca Wright
- 19 Frank & Barbara Eckert
- 30 Tom & Sherry Marlatt

**Summer Kick-Off Carnival & Ice Cream Social**

To celebrate a great year of Sunday School



Sunday, June 2

Following the Children's Moment – 12 PM



RSVP to your teacher

The Sunday School will wrap up our year on Sunday, June 2nd. To celebrate a great year and the start of Summer, the teachers are hosting a Summer-Kick Off Carnival for our students and Ice Cream Social (during coffee hour) for the entire congregation. The children will begin in Church and following the year-end ceremony will head out for some fun. Younger siblings (and Grandchildren) are welcome and encouraged to attend!

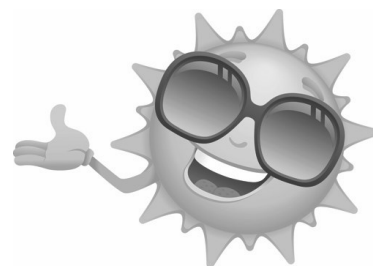
I want to send a special thank you to all our Sunday School Volunteers that helped make this school year a success. Our teachers: Danielle Dougherty, Kacey Kowalchuk, and Debbie Norz, our assistants and substitutes: Kelly Stabile, Adam and Valerie Franco, Tyson Stramaglia, Nancy Murray, Mary Nunn, Jessica Estevez, Mark and Karen Messineo, and Isobel Green. We were very blessed to have had such a great turnout of volunteers, we couldn't have done it without you.

Wishing all our students, volunteers, and Church families a blessed and safe summer break and looking forward to catching up on Sunday mornings. Watch for information throughout the Summer regarding our Welcome Back picnic and the start of our 2024-2025 school year.

- Tracy Davenport

**SUMMER WORSHIP BEGINS!**

As we enter the Summer, please remember that SBRC will be gathering each and every Sunday at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. Please dress cool & comfortable. Feel free to bring a bottle of water with you to keep hydrated! We look forward to seeing you during the Summer as we continue to give thanks & praise to our gracious God.



## FLOOD WALL DRILL

Hurricane Season is from June 1<sup>st</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> and all available hands are needed to help keep SBRC dry!



There will be a Flood Wall Drill on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. We will gather in the Dining Room to review the process, answer any questions, and then make our way outside.

This is the perfect opportunity for those who missed the initial training and it will be a great refresher for the rest. Please make effort to attend and participate



in this drill so that we will be ready for when it is really needed! A sign-up sheet has been posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

## BOOK CLUB

The Book Club met on Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss “The World Played Chess” by Robert Dugoni. In June, the Book Club will be meeting on Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7pm via Zoom to discuss “The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks” by Rebecca Skloot. All are welcome to join in the discussion and the fun!!

### Summer 2024 Book Club List:

- July** “All the Light We Cannot See” by Anthony Doerr  
**August** “Sumer Wives” by Beatriz Williams  
**September** “Winter Garden by Kristin Hannah

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JUNE

### June 2:

1 Samuel 3:1-20  
 Psalm 139:1-6,13-18  
 Deuteronomy 5:12-15  
 Psalm 81:1-10  
 2 Corinthians 4:5-12  
 Mark 2:23-3:6

### June 9:

1 Samuel 8:4-20  
 Psalm 138  
 Genesis 3:8-15  
 Psalm 130  
 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1  
 Mark 3:20-55

### June 16:

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13  
 Psalm 20  
 Ezekiel 17:22-24  
 Psalm 92:1-4,12-15  
 2 Corinthians 5:6-10  
 Mark 4:26-34

### June 23:

1 Samuel 17:32-49  
 Psalm 9:9-20  
 Job 38:1-11  
 Psalm 107:1-3;23-32  
 2 Corinthians 6:1-13  
 Mark 4:35-41

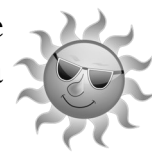
### June 30:

2 Samuel 1:1,17-27  
 Psalm 130  
 Lamentations 3:22-33  
 Psalm 30  
 2 Corinthians 8:7-15  
 Mark 5:21-43



## FROM THE PASTOR...

On June 10<sup>th</sup>, I will be travelling to Tucson, AZ to attend the Annual Stated Clerks Meeting and the 2024 RCA General Synod. This will be an important meeting of the RCA as the Restructuring Team will present their recommendations and delegates will be voting on what the RCA might look like moving forward. While it is not a trip for relaxation & exploration, it is an opportunity to reconnect with long-time friends as we gather for the business of the RCA. I covet your prayers for safe travel and a productive meeting!



At SBRC, the arrival of June usually brings a “slow-down” period. Members and friends will take some well-deserved time off from work to enjoy the weather, vacation with their families, and visit with friends. Some will travel to other locations for a bit of relaxation and others will opt for “stay-cations”. Regardless, we are all looking forward to warmer temperatures and the opportunity to wind down for a bit. While we are getting ready for summer breaks/vacations, please remember that SBRC remains open for worship & fellowship opportunities.

Summer worship begins on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>! While the worship service will be shortened to help with the warmer temperatures, we will still have the opportunity to gather in fellowship! Over the last few years we experimented with worship outside, in the Dining Room, and in the Fireside Room. Due to the complaints about online worship quality, we will remain in the Sanctuary. So, please come dressed as cool & comfortable as possible.

*Pastor [Signature]*

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## HOME FUNDRAISER!

HOME (Housing, Outreach, Multifaith, Empowerment) of Somerset County is kicking off its annual Calendar Raffle sale. Tickets are \$10 each and benefit at-risk families in Somerset County. HOME has a 90% five-year success rate for families achieving a sustainable, independent future. Three winners of cash prizes each week from November through January. Tickets are drawn every Wednesday and values are \$50 and \$100. All tickets are reentered for each weekly drawing, giving multiple chances to win. Join in the fun! Support HOME! For tickets and/or more information please contact Kate Sarles.



# June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion Summer Kick-Off & Ice Cream Social SVP at 7pm	3 SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	4 SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	5	6 Preschool Year-End Ceremony SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	7 Preschool Year-End Ceremony	8 Flood Wall Drill at 8:00am
9 Summer Worship Begins SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	10 SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	11 SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	12 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7pm SVP at 7pm in Fireside Room	13	14	15
16 Women's Group Items for the Summer Newsletter Due!	17	18	19 Consistory at 7:30pm in Parlor	20	21 Cub Scout Regatta in Parking Lot at 6pm	22
23	24 Preschool Summer Camp Begins	25	26 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7pm at Stockman home	27	28	29
30 Book Club at 7pm via Zoom						

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

## LET'S GO TEAM SBRC!!

We've recorded 870 lbs. of collected plastic in just 7 ½ months. We're nearing the end and hope you continue to deliver for a little while longer. Just another 130 lbs. to go and we'll have another beautiful new bench!



We can do it!!