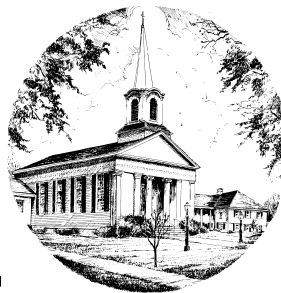


CONTACT



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Treasurer's Notes	2
Ham Dinner	2
Sunday School	3
Preschool News	4
Hillsborough Food Pantry Needs!	5
Monthly Calendar	6
Sunday School Registration Form	7

***South Branch
Reformed Church***

**870 River Road
Hillsborough, NJ
08844**

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

**Web:
www.sbrchurch.org**

 **@SBRChurch**

 **sbrchurch**

FROM THE PASTOR...

September is upon us and the return to “normal” schedules and routines begin again. I pray that your Summer was filled with lasting memories, exploration of new places or a return to familiar hangouts, and the opportunity to rest and relax.

SBRC was quite busy over the Summer and a number of property projects were completed! The line from the kitchen sinks to the holding tank was replaced and will hopefully put an end to the drain issues. The chimney over the parking lot entrance was repaired and that will, hopefully, put an end to the leak in the hallway by the restrooms. We held two Flood Wall Drills in preparation for Hurricane Season. The new Trex Bench has been received and will be placed once the walkway & stairs are replaced to the Chapel (Blue Room).



So, while we take a deep breath from the Summer repairs/improvements, we are also gearing up for the start of activities at SBRC that traditionally begin in September!

First, the Ham Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 7th from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM in the Dining Room. It will certainly be nice to see all of the faces of our members and friends as we are able to gather around the table and enjoy a meal together.



SBRC Choirs are getting their voices ready for another year of leading us in worship and praise! Adult Choir Rehearsals are set to begin on September 5th at 7:30pm in the Parlor and their return to the Sanctuary will be on Sunday, September 15th!

Junior Choir will begin rehearsals following worship on Sunday mornings in September, so please be sure to watch the bulletin for when that resumes. I'm sure all of us will be very happy to their voices on Sunday morning!

Sunday School is set to begin on September 15th!!! The “Welcome Back” Picnic will be held following worship and a sign-up sheet has been posted for people to share what they will be bringing.

Pastor [Signature]



September Birthdays:

- 4 Tom Evers
- 7 Tracy Davenport
Danielle Dougherty
- 13 Lucas Akhdim
- 15 John Colaiacovo
- 16 Michael Powell
- 17 Gilbert Warner
- 18 Ben Burt
- 27 Joseph LiBrizzi
- 28 Amanda Sarles
- 29 Thomas Kletz



September Anniversaries

- 5 Joe & Annette
LiBrizzi
- 6 Steve & Kim
Kowalchuk
- 10 Britt & Joanne
Powell
- 22 Dan & Tracy
Davenport

TREASURER'S NOTES



Where has the summer gone? In a few short weeks, vacations will be ending, kids will return to school, and the church will come alive with activity. Historically, the church suffers financially over the summer, and 2024 proved to be no different. Attendance was down. Pledges were down. Only the expenses were up.

We started June, \$3,402 in the black. Even though there were five Sundays in the month, income was a record low. Expenses were high due to the large quarterly payments. We ended the month, \$3,195, in the red. July proved to be a little better. Our income was up from the previous month. Unfortunately, we had some large expenses. So sadly, we ended the month, \$5,171 in the red.

Come on people of SBRC. Let us dig out of this hole and get back in the black. We can do this if we all work together.

May God continue to bless this church and its people.

- Robyn Friedlander

HAM DINNER

SBRC will be holding a **Ham Dinner** on Saturday, **September 7th** from 4:00 to 6:30pm with Chef Tyson presiding over the kitchen. Cost is \$20.00 per ticket.

Call (908) 369-4956 for tickets or make your reservations by visiting: app.gopassage.com/events/2024-ham

Menu

- Baked Ham
- Au Gratin Potatoes
- Corn
- Cole Slaw Applesauce
- Tomato & Cucumber Salad
- Dinner Rolls with Butter
- Assorted Desserts
- Coffee/Tea/Lemonade/Iced Tea

**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!**

Online ticket sales began on August 12th at 9AM

SBRC CHOIRS

One of the best parts about the arrival of September is the return of the SBRC Choirs! We all enjoy the dedication and the talent of each of our choir members and we look forward to their voices leading us during Worship.

Junior Choir is set to resume in September and all children from Preschool to 8th Grade are invited to join in the fun! Rehearsals will be held on Sundays following Worship in the Parlor.

Adult Choir will resume in September and we invite all interested singers beginning in the 8th Grade. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the Parlor and will begin on September 5th.

No experience or formal training is required to be part of the choirs! We are always looking for new members. All that is necessary is a desire to sing, assist in the worship service through our shared voices, and a willingness to have a great time!



SUNDAY SCHOOL



Please join us on Sunday, September 15 for the first day of our 2024-2025 Sunday School Year followed by our Welcome Back Picnic. All are welcome! As with previous years, the picnic is potluck. Paper goods, burgers, hotdogs, condiments and rolls will be provided and Church members fill in the rest, bringing sides, desserts and beverages. A sheet will be posted in the hallway to sign up.

As tradition here at South Branch, our Sunday School students start each Sunday morning in the Sanctuary at 10AM. Following the Children's Sermon, the children and teachers will head out to their classrooms for the remainder of the hour, concluding at approximately 11AM.

Please complete a registration form and return it to me by text or email at your earliest convenience. This information will be used to set up classes and order curriculum. All children 2-1/2 years through 8th grade are welcome, bring a friend!

Group activities to look forward to this year include: a Halloween Party, Christmas Program, Valentine's Day activity, Lenten Pretzels, Easter activity and Egg Hunt, Mother's Day activity and fun times together each week making friends and learning God's Word along the way.



We are always looking for volunteers to help make our program even better. If you are interested in helping in any way: teaching, co-teaching, substituting, event planning, etc. please reach out.

Sunday School
MAKES A DIFFERENCE

- Tracy Davenport

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

September 1:

Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2,6-9
Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9
Psalm 15
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

September 8:

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9,
22-23
Psalm 125
Isaiah 33:4-7a
Psalm 146
James 2:1-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 15:

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 22:

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

September 29:

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10,
9:20-22
Psalm 124
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16,
24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



We had a great time at our Summer Camp. Four weeks of “Around the World in 15 Days” flew right by. The children enjoyed stories, crafts and outdoor play in all of our themes from all over the world.

The start of the school year is upon us and we look forward to another wonderful school year here at South Branch. We are so fortunate that all of our wonderful staff will be returning for another school year. The start of this school year is also special because it is the start of Patty O’Shaughnessy’s 20th school year here at South Branch. Patty is caring and compassionate and treats each student as they are her own. Patty’s classrooms are always a loving and nurturing environment helping children feel comfortable and really love being at school. Congratulations Patty.

We are getting ready to welcome returning and new families to our Open House on Friday September 6th. This is a great opportunity for students and families to meet their teachers, classmates and other families. The first day of classes will be Monday September 9th where we currently have 63 students registered across 5 classes.

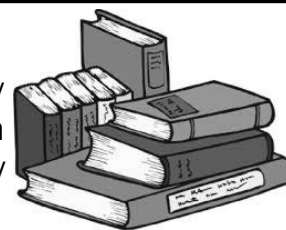
Our Early Beginnings class starts on Wednesday, October 2nd and runs for nine weeks. Our fall session is all about colors. This is our mommy & me class which is a great introduction to Preschool.

If you would like information about any of our programs please contact me at preschool@sbrchurch.org.

~ Jenn Feaster

BOOK CLUB

The Book Club has been holding their monthly meetings on the last Sunday of the month at 7:00pm via Zoom. Our participants include church members, families & friends of church members, and out-of-state family members. We are always looking for more members & friends to join us!



The next meeting will be on Sunday, September 29th at 7pm via Zoom to discuss “Winter Garden” by Kristin Hannah.

October’s reading selection is “The Lost Apothecary” by Sarah Penner. For November the group has chosen “Orphan #8” by Kim Van Alkemade. There will be a library discussion kit for both books available.

HOME FUNDRAISER

Home of Somerset County is kicking off its annual Calendar raffle. Tickets are \$10 each and will benefit at-risk families in our community. Three winners will win cash prizes every Wednesday from November through January. Tickets are drawn every Wednesday and values are \$50 and \$100. Tickets are reentered for each weekly drawing, giving ticket holders multiple chances to win. Join in the fun and support HOME of Somerset County. For more information contact Kate Sarles.



WOMEN'S GROUP

You know it's that Back to School time when you start seeing ads for bookbags and pencils. And it's Back to Church time too. The Women's Group will be meeting during coffee hour September 15th to resume clipping stamps for the Alliance Stamp Ministry in Florida. This group of dedicated volunteers sells the used stamps that we clip and send to them to raise money to print Sunday School materials in Spanish for both the United States and around the world. Please save your stamps and help to contribute to this worthy effort.



Also remember to clean out your car and sofa cushions for loose coins (or dollar bills) for River Blindness Mission in Africa. Our few coins and bills have great power to distribute medicine and healing to people who otherwise would not be healed.

- Lynne Lothian

Bench #2 is here!

Congratulations on another successful plastic collection. SBRC was able to collect over 1,000 pounds of plastic in under 12 months (8 months to be exact). Our new bench is stored away in a box until cooler weather conditions allow us to construct it.

Thank you to everyone who collected, helped deliver plastic to Wegmans and record their plastic weights and photos of proof to me. It was very helpful to me as I often found my Honda Pilot filled to the brim with plastic.

Helping to keep the planet clean is an easy task and came with a nice reward for South Branch Reformed Church and Preschool. If anyone is interested in collecting for a third bench, please feel free to speak with me. It's not a difficult task. But it needs attention once a week. I am willing to share the responsibility with one or two other church members when we are, again, eligible to collect. I am otherwise stepping down from this responsibility.

I hope this experience encourages you to continue collecting your plastic for purposes of recycling. Thanks again everyone and please recycle your plastic with your personal collection until another SBRC event is announced.

- Irene Foley

URGENT NEED FOR FOOD PANTRY!

This fall the Church Growth and Outreach Committee is asking for targeted donations to go to the Hillsborough Food Pantry. We are requesting personal care items:

Feminine Hygiene Products, Disposable Razors, Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Toothpaste, Bar Soap, Toothbrushes, Shampoo, Mouthwash (Alcohol Free), Conditioner, Diapers, Body Wash, Other Baby Care Items

Please place your donations in the MARKED bin located inside the church parking lot entrance. Thank you in advance for your continued support of our community.



September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion	2	3	4	5 Choir at 7:30 PM in Parlor	6 Preschool Open House Dinner Set-up at 7:00 PM	7 Ham Dinner from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM
8 Regular Worship Resumes	9 Preschool Begins!	10 175th Committee at 7:00 PM in Parlor	11 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7:00 PM at Stockman Home	12 Choir at 7:30 PM in Parlor	13	14
15 Sunday School Begins! "Welcome Back" Picnic	16 Newsletter Items for October Due!	17	18 Consistory at 7:30 PM in Parlor	19 Choir at 7:30 PM in Parlor	20	21
22	23 Preschool Back to School Night	24 Preschool Back to School Night	25 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7:00 PM at Stockman Home	26 Choir at 7:30 PM in Parlor	27	28
29 Book Club at 7:00 PM via Zoom	30					

**SBRC Sunday School
Registration Form
2024 – 2025**

Name of Child

Age

Grade

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Name(s) of Parent/Guardian

Mobile Phone Number(s)

Email Address(es)

Home Address

Please list any food allergies or medical concerns

*Please complete and return to the Church prior to the start of
Sunday School on September 15, 2024.*

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



2024 CHURCH DINNERS



September brings the next round of Church Dinners at SBRC! We truly appreciate all the members & friends that help make these dinners a success! Whether you are part of the kitchen crew, the set-up team, servers, patron, and/or clean-up crew, each of you make these dinners a success and a fun part of SBRC! Be sure to mark you calender for the remaining 2024 Dinners:

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

September 7th - Ham Dinner

October 19th - Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinner

November 16th - Turkey Dinner

The Dining Room is open and we are excited to see you all return. If taking your dinner(s) home, please remember to bring a reusable bag!