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South Branch Reformed Church

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TREASURER'S NOTE



Summer is over. The choir has returned to their loft, and we once again enjoy the sound of their beautiful voices. The sound of laughter echoes throughout the church as our children return to their Sunday School classes. SBRC is bursting with activities as we get back to our regular routines, ready to take care of business.

We started August, \$4,626 in the red. Pledges were steady but not enough to offset expenses. We ended the month, \$5,709 in the red.

Financially, we did not have a horrible summer, yet we were unable to stay out of the red. Just a reminder that September is a month when numerous quarterly payments are made in addition to our regular expenses.

We need your help to get back in the black. What can you do? Keep up with your pledges. Submit your classis dues if you have not already done so (\$100 per member). Support the remaining fundraiser dinners. We can do this SBRC if we all pitch in.



May God continue to bless this church and its people.

- Robyn Friedlander

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

A New Members Class will be held on Sunday, October 12th & 19th in the Pastor's Study following worship and will meet with the Elders on October 26th in the Parlor following worship. Reception of New Members will take place during the Worship Service with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on November 2nd. If you are interested in joining the SBRC family, please speak with Pastor Steve.



- 5 Beth Bernard
- 6 Khaila Tan
- 11 Hedily Wendover
- 13 Joe Sikora
- 14 Adele Miller
- 17 Jude Mazzarella
Linda Ruocco
- 18 Gabriella Marshall
- 19 Adam Franco
- 24 Savannah Marshall



- 2 Louis & Tara
Mazzarella
- 8 Mark & Karen
Messineo
- 12 James & Mary
Nunn
- 23 Rich & Debbie
Norz
- 29 Tom & Jean
Evers

FROM THE PASTOR...

Weather-wise, it has been an interesting year! We didn't have the multiple days of oppressive heat & humidity this past Summer. Some of our days were really warm followed by chilly nights. We had long periods of dry conditions and a few hours of heavy downpours. It has made it difficult to know how to dress and what to bring with you as you left the house! The weather continues to leave us guessing and the only sign that we have entered into Autumn is the arrival of pumpkin spiced coffee & donuts, event focusing on pumpkin & apple picking, and the copious Halloween displays & candy in the stores (these actually showed up in mid-August along with a smattering of Christmas).



At SBRC, the programs & activities are in full-swing and more are being thought over and/or planned. The Preschool is full of smiling & giggling (some crying) children. The space is being utilized by SVP for rehearsals. It is great to see the building alive with activity after the Summer pause.

Confirmation Class is set to begin on Sunday, October 5th at 7:00pm in the Parlor. Please pray for these students as they continue on their faith journey and what it means to be an active adult member of SBRC!

Be sure to look over the Sunday bulletin & current newsletters to see what is coming up. Help is always needed in many of our activities, so please check-out the sign up sheets and help where you are able.

CHICKEN FRANCAISE DINNER

SBRC will be holding a Chicken Francaise Dinner on Saturday, October 18th from 4:00 to 6:30 PM with Chef Tyson presiding over the kitchen. All tickets are \$20.

Call (908) 369-4956 for tickets or make your reservations by visiting: app.gopassage.com/events/2025-chicken-francaise.

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

Menu

- Chicken Francaise
- Herbed Risotto
- Broccoli
- Cole Slaw
- Pasta Salad
- Stewed Tomatoes
- Fruit Cup
- Assorted Desserts

Coffee/Tea/Lemonade/Iced Tea

CHURCH GROWTH & OUTREACH

We will be collecting targeted donations of toothbrushes and toothpaste through October 26th. You can continue to donate any nonperishable food items also. Thanks in advance for your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with Holly Kowalenko.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School year kicked off on September 14th with our first session and Welcome Back Picnic. Thank you to all our volunteers and donations that helped make the picnic possible. Special thanks to Tom and Patti Kletz, Joe, Ashley and Brianna LiBrizzi, and Mike Mastrosimone for manning the grill and for getting everything set in the dining room. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and celebration for another school year ahead.

We've been so very blessed with wonderful volunteers that will help make this an amazing year for our Sunday School students.



Danielle Dougherty will be leading our Preschool/Kindergarten class, our *Mini's*. All preschoolers 2-1/2 and up are welcome. This includes Grandchildren and visitors.

Jessica Estevez will be teaching the 1st-4th grade *Junior* class.

Kacey Kowalchuk will be teaching the 5th-7th grade *Senior* class.

We also have several volunteers to substitute when needed. Thank you to Valerie and Adam Franco, Mary Nunn, and Kelly Stabile for being available to fill-in.

We will celebrate Halloween on Sunday, October 26th. Children will start with our annual costume parade through the Sanctuary to share some smiles with the Congregation before the Mini and Junior classes head down to the Fireside Room for fun and games. Our Senior class will head to the Dining Room to carve pumpkins. More information to follow. All are welcome.

We look forward to spending Sunday mornings with your children learning God's Word. Bring a friend!



~ Tracy Davenport

PLASTIC UPDATE!

Congratulations SBRC!!! We have completed the NexTrex Bench challenge by collecting and dropping off 1,000 lbs. of plastic (we had 9 days left to complete the challenge). Thank you to everyone who helped us to meet this goal. Now, we wait for the delivery of our new bench!

One thing that this collection has taught all of us over the past couple of years is that we use a lot of plastic in any number of common items that we purchase each week. Our participation helped to remove 1,000 lbs. of plastic that would normally go into the trash. So, we should feel so very good about helping God's creation and environment.



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR OCTOBER

October 5:

Lamentations 11-6
Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 12:

Jeremiah 29:1,4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 19;

Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 27:

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:8,16-18
Luke 18:9-14



CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class will begin on Sunday, October 5th from 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Parlor. Our meetings will be on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. All students are encouraged to bring their Bible, a notebook, a pen/pencil, as well as an open mind & curious spirit as we begin this journey to active adult membership in SBRC.

Please keep our students in your prayers as they begin this time with Pastor Steve.

Those in our Confirmation Class this year are: Armando Franco, Aiden Stabile, and Ryan Stabile.



WOMEN'S GROUP

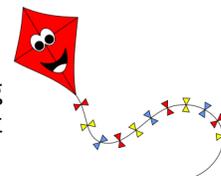
The Women's Group met during coffee hour on September 21st and clipped 505 stamps for the Stamp Alliance in Ft. Myers, FL. As of the end of May, the Stamp Alliance has raised \$17,000 to print Sunday School materials in Spanish for here in the United States and around the world. Keep up the great work SRBC stamp collectors!



River Blindness Mission has a new epidemic to fight - trachoma - a infectious eye disease that slowly and painfully blinds adults and children in the poorest countries in the world such as South Sudan. This disease turns the person's eyelashes inward and painfully scratches the eye until it is blind. Antibiotics can prevent it, and a simple surgery can correct. Please consider dropping your coins or bills in the plastic container next to the stairs to the sanctuary. Your donation can have huge effects in the lives of people around the world. "Go ye into all the world..."

PRESCHOOL NEWS

What a wonderful start to the school year we have had. This is such an exciting year as all of our classes are full. During these first few weeks the students spend a lot of time getting to know their teachers and other classmates. Each student and teacher have made an "All About Me Kite". These Kites include pictures of their families, food they like to eat, places they like to go and things they do for fun. The students then share these with their classmates during circle time. During this time the teachers also spend a lot of time introducing all aspects of our classrooms so that the students can take full advantage of all our classrooms have to offer.



October is such a busy and fun month here at SBRC. We have our annual trip to Norz Hill Farm on October 16th & 17th and all parents are invited to join us on our trip. We will celebrate Halloween with our annual preschool parades on October 27th & 28th. The children will sing Halloween songs that they have learned in music class and parade around in their costumes. The preschool is transformed into a pumpkin patch on October 28th & 29th for our Pumpkin Carving with Dad in the evening.



Early Beginnings started on September 24th. This is our "Mommy & Me" class which is a great introduction to Preschool. Our fall session is all about colors.

We are looking forward to another wonderful school year here at SBRC Preschool! If you would like information about any of our programs please contact me at preschool@sbrchurch.org.

~ Jenn Feaster



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 World Communion Sunday SVP at 6pm Confirmation at 7pm in Parlor	6 SVP at 7pm Lectio Divina at 7pm in Parlor	7 2026 Budget Meeting at 7pm in Church Office	8 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7pm at Stockman home	9 Choir at 7:30pm in Parlor	10	11
12 New Members Class	13	14	15 Consistory at 7:30pm in Parlor	16 Newsletter items due! Choir at 7:30pm in Parlor	17 Dinner set-up at 7pm	18 Chicken Francaise Dinner 4:00-6:30pm
19 Women's Group New Members Class Confirmation at 7pm in Parlor	20	21	22 Knit, Pray, Crochet at 7pm in Stockman home	23 Choir at 7:30pm in Parlor	24	25
26 Sunday School Halloween Party New Members with Elders Book Club at 8pm via Zoom	27 <i>Preschool Halloween Parade</i>	28 <i>Preschool Halloween Parade</i> <i>Preschool Pumpkin Carving</i>	29 <i>Preschool Pumpkin Carving</i>	30 Choir at 7:30pm in Parlor	31 	

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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

HELP NEEDED!

On Saturday, October 4th, Pastor Steve will be at the Church at 10:00 AM to take out all of the window air conditioning units. Any and all help is greatly appreciated!

