

FAMILY MINISTRY

The church office and preschool will be CLOSED February 18 for Presidents Day

Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) and Crossing Zone (4th-6th)

Goals of our Kids Ministry:

To lead children into a growing relationship with Jesus



Kingdom Kids: Grades K-3
Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm
Crossing Zone: Grades 4-6
Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm
Flock: Grades 7-8
Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm
Wave: Grades 9-12
Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

Memory Verse

Live a life that is worthy of the calling He has graciously extended to you. Be humble. Be gentle. Be patient. Tolerate one another in an atmosphere thick with love.

- Ephesians 4: 1-2

For Families and Children:
Holly Asciutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth:
Dan Wonneberger
856-745-6596 (cell/text)
dwonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org

Come Have Family Dinner With Us

From 6-7 pm, our Wednesday Family Dinner is a weekly meeting place ... truly a *family dinner* where we can share a meal with our church family as *all ages* come together to share in church activities. Or just dinner. Donation \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per family. Thank you for helping us cover our costs. **Menu for February 13:** Pasta Night!



Kids: Pick up your Worship Bags

See Holly Asciutto each Sunday to pick up a **Worship Bag**. Children are invited to use the doodle book to complete a weekly mission connected to the service. PARENTS: please send a picture of the completed mission to Holly's cell at 609-273-7465 to post by Room 8. *Please return the bags each week to the worship bag tree.* **4th-6th Grades** — See Holly for your own book and pencil to complete your mission as well! Contact hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or (856) 235-1688, Ext. 116.

FPCM Way of the Week (February 10-17)

#5: ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT. Decide to trust that other members are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge — it doesn't help.

Scriptures: 1 Peter 4:8; Galatians 5:15; Matthew 7:1

ASSUME
positive
INTENT

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
Moorestown, NJ 08057
www.fpcmoorestown.org
(856) 235-1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Kelly LePenske
Pastoral Associate
klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

WORSHIP HOURS

- 8:30 am Traditional
- 11:00 am Contemporary
9:45-10:45 am
Education Hour

**Connect. Devote.
Serve. Worship.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL February 10

Nursery: Preschool Wing
3-4 Years: Room 15
Grades K-1: Room 13
Grades 2-3: Room 10-11
Grades 4: Room 7
Grades 5-6: Room 3-4
CREDO: 3rd Floor
Middle School: 3rd Floor

Adult Education

3 C'S Class: Lounge
World of Acts Class:
Fellowship Hall A & B

"Connections" is published weekly for Sunday worship. Please submit information by **noon Tuesdays** to:

Editor Jan Martin
jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org
856-235-1688, Ext. 133

Are you receiving our **Friday e-blast** with announcements, FPC news and upcoming events? If not, contact the [church office](#).



Connections



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

February 10-17, 2019

GRACE NOTES "Always Encourage and Celebrate"

THE FPCM WAY OF THE WEEK (February 10-17)

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Judge not, that you be not judged.

Matthew 7: 1

Jesus' instructions with regard to judging others is very simply put; He says, "Don't." The average Christian is the most piercingly critical individual known. Criticism is one of the ordinary activities of people, but in the spiritual realm nothing is accomplished by it. The effect of criticism is the dividing up of the strengths of the one being criticized. The Holy Spirit is the only one in the proper position to criticize, and He alone is able to show what is wrong without hurting and wounding. It is impossible to enter into fellowship with God when you are in a critical mood. Criticism serves to make you harsh, vindictive, and cruel, and leaves you with the soothing and flattering idea that you are somehow superior to others. Jesus says that as His disciple you should cultivate a temperament that is never critical. This will not happen quickly but must be developed over a span of time. You must constantly beware of anything that causes you to think of yourself as a superior person.

There is no escaping the penetrating search of my life by Jesus. If I see the little speck in your eye, it means that I have a plank of timber in my own (see Matthew 7:3-5). Every wrong thing that I see in you, God finds in me. Every time I judge, I condemn myself (see Romans 2:17-24). Stop having a measuring stick for other people. There is always at least one more fact, which we know nothing about, in every person's situation. The first thing God does is to give us a thorough spiritual cleaning. After that, there is no possibility of pride remaining in us. I have never met a person I could despair of, or lose all hope for, after discerning what lies in me apart from the grace of God.

- From Oswald Chamber, My Utmost for His Highest

Lenten Small Group Study Coming Soon! (see page 3)



Congratulations to the following members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC), who were called by the congregation at the Feb. 3, 2019 Annual Meeting: **Dave Adams, Adrienne Barr, Marsha Booker, Kevin Fauvell, Jane Murphy and Carole Wehn.**

Senior Musical Event

A special FREE performance of Moorestown High School's 2019 Spring Musical *9 TO 5* will be held for seniors on **Thursday, Feb. 28** at 12 noon. The event is free of charge for senior citizens, and soft pretzels, candy and water are served at intermission. Guests are welcome to bring their own lunches too. Parking is an issue so carpooling is welcomed. This musical, featuring music and lyrics by Dolly Parton, is based on the 1980 hit movie and is a hilarious story of friendship and revenge in the Rododex era. The performance will conclude approx. 2:30-3:00 p.m.

Annual Per Capita Giving

In February, look for mailed information regarding our annual Per Capita giving. As Presbyterians, we are a *connectional church*. This assessment is a "per member" contribution of **\$38.75 per member** that each church pays annually to the larger church. This amount includes portions for the General Assembly, Synod and West Jersey Presbytery.

Congregation members are kindly asked to help provide the \$38.75 for themselves and their member children (if able). Or you may submit an "opt out" request if you do NOT wish to pay. Your response and support is most appreciated and will assist the church in paying this assessment. YES, Per Capita may also be paid [online](#)!

- Stewardship Committee

Thought about Being an Elder, Deacon or Trustee?

The Nominations Committee is currently accepted submissions for individuals to serve as Elders, Deacons or Trustees. Forms are available on the Friday eblast, website and church office. Please think about serving on one of these boards and utilizing your skills and talents for FPC. To submit nominations, contact either Joyce Wenzke (jwenzke@aol.com) or Brian Perkowski (perkowskibk@comcast.net).

Friday Nighters March 1

Please join Friday Nighters for a Pot Luck dinner on **Friday, March 1** at 6:30 PM for "Butterflies." Master Gardener Barbara Herbs will share her photos from Smith's Woods butterfly garden and we will learn how landscaping with native plants feeds those jewels of the garden. RSVP to Doris and Dave Kahley by **Wed. Feb. 27** at 609-261-8474. There is NO charge -- only a dish to share. Hope to see you there!

MONDAY: Dine and Donate for Denmark!

Please support this summer's Denmark Youth Choir Trip by dining at PJ Whelihan's (396 S. Lenola Road, Maple Shade) on **Monday, Feb. 11** from 5-9 p.m. No flyer necessary—simply indicate you are with FPC Moorestown and PJ's will donate 15% of sales. Invite family, friends, colleagues and neighbors!



2019 Rummage Sale

Are you Spring Cleaning? Save your items for the Rummage Sale **March 13-14!** Drop off will begin Sunday, March 10. WANT TO HELP? Fantastic! Contact Cheryl Gaskill at 856-904-3056 or my-baseballboys@yahoo.com or Gayle Payne at (856) 235-2708 or dpayne4501@aol.com. Please remember church meeting rooms will need to be adjusted the week of the sale.

Preschool Registration Now Open

Step by Step Christian Preschool is accepting enrollment for its 2018-19 classes. Classes begin in September 2018 and are available for 2 ½-year olds, 3-year olds and 4-year olds.

The preschool offers flexibility for morning or afternoon sessions for 2, 3, 4 or 5 days a week, and is open to members of the church and surrounding areas. Contact Preschool Director Amy Delgado at adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org.

Please SIGN IN on the Friendship Registration Pads in the Sanctuary and Miller Commons. We're glad you're here!



Annual Giving Statements

Final giving statements for the calendar year 2018 were mailed to congregation members last week. For information contact Norman Vandergrift at (856) 235-1688 or nvandergrift@fpcmoorestown.org.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is a wonderful way for congregants to support each other. As we see in The Ways, we need to help each other more. But if you need someone to talk to, a Stephen Minister might be for you. If interested, call Jan Amos at 856-234-0942 or the church office at 856-235-1688.

Thank you to those who helped with IHN

Please take a moment to thank these volunteers for making our IHN families especially welcomed this week:

Sandeen Family, Cheryl Gaskill, Mark Huddel & Kerry Miller, Brady & Bryce Catanella, Beth, Charlotte and Ella Van Dusen, Jenny & Steve Revucky, Tom Samuel, Mancer Cyr, Brett Couvillion & Elizabeth Litten, Bruce & Kathy Melson, Jean Donahue, Allen Family, Paul Grossman, Susan Horn, Mike Welch, Terry Family, Chris Palmer, LaMonica Family, Jan Martin, Pastor Spencer.

New Format Planned for Spring Inquirers Class

This spring, the Inquirers Class for prospective members and those wishing to learn more about FPC, will be a single Saturday class and the traditional meeting with Session. This format is designed to work better with today's busy schedules. The class will be held **Saturday, March 9** from 9:00 am-3:00 pm and include lunch. Participants will focus on questions of membership, our relationship with Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, what it means to be a disciple, and a faithful member of this congregation. Those wishing to join will meet for lunch with Session **Sunday, March 10** after the Contemporary worship service. For questions or to sign up contact Membership chair Bruce Melson at bstew52@yahoo.com or the church office at (856) 235-1688. Please note if child care is needed.

Ken Wehn Hired as New Property Supervisor

It is with great joy that we announce the hiring of **Ken Wehn** as the new Property Supervisor for First Presbyterian Church. Ken brings a lifetime of experience in the industry managing his own home inspection business Victory Home Inspections. He will begin Feb. 4, and will oversee the property staff, building improvements, construction, facility infrastructure and maintenance.



No more envelopes! SIGN UP for safe and secure automatic withdrawal.

News from the Pews

- ♦ **Service Sunday** — During both services on **Sunday, February 24**, members will complete their Service Pledge Form, indicating ways in which they wish to connect and serve this year. There are hundreds of ways to be involved at FPC ~ what ministries mean the most to you? Continue serving in an area you're helping with now or think about adding something new. There are countless ways to make an impact and utilize your skills.
- ♦ The church has transitioned to a new **eblast system**, so if you're NOT receiving the Friday eblast let [Jan Martin](#) in the office know (Ext. 133).
- ♦ **Ash Wednesday** worship will be March 6 at 7:00 p.m. beginning the Journey of Lent.
- ♦ **COMING:** Our **Lenten study** this year will be the book "Everybody Always" by author Bob Goff. Watch for sign up sheets in the Commons Lobby for the different small groups and find one that works for you. For details contact [Kelly LePenske](#) or [Becca Neindorff](#). Classes will begin the week of Ash Wednesday (March 6) and books can be ordered through the church office.
- ♦ Reserve special dates for 2019 **worship flowers** to honor loved ones. Contact Rumi Sinunu at rts319@gmail.com. \$40 per vase, 2 vases are available each week. Easter flowers too!

