



“Jesus loves me, this I know for the Bible tells me so ...”

Commons Construction Affects Groups

Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone and Family Dinner will be **CANCELED on February 20** due to week-long construction in the Commons Lobby and removal of the flooring.

Flock families will be advised by [Dan Wonneberger](#) if that group will be able to meet (grades 7-8). Stay tuned!

Primary Choir and Choristers choir rehearsals WILL be held as scheduled upstairs in Room 21. **Please enter the building from the BACK DOOR (by church offices) or by the SANCTUARY DOORS (portico).**

- 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 Ascitutto
 856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

Youth News

Great Escape Trip (\$500) — Middle school trip for an awesome week of worship, engaging speakers, new friends and a college campus! Scholarships available.

Adirondack Mountains Service Trip (\$425) — We will be running kids camps, doing minor home repair, encouraging local ministries, and hosting a community dinner. A great opportunity to serve together!

Have questions? Contact [Dan Wonneberger](#) or cell/text (856) 745-6596

Ash Wednesday Schedule (March 6)

There will be NO Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone or Family Dinner on Wednesday, March 6 so that families may attend the 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship service together. There WILL be Primary Choir rehearsal at 4:00 p.m., Choristers rehearsal at 5:00 p.m. and Flock youth group at 6:30 p.m. Contact [Holly Ascitutto](#), [Dan Wonneberger](#) or [Joel Krott](#) for questions.



Kids: Pick up your Worship Bags

See Holly Ascitutto 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.

FORGIVE...
AGAIN

FPCM Way of the Week (February 17-24)

#6: FORGIVE ... AGAIN. Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you’re struggling to forgive.

Scriptures: Matthew 6: 13-14; Ephesians 4: 31; Colossians 3: 13

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

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL
February 17
 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 17-24, 2019

GRACE NOTES

**FPCM Way of the Week (February 17-24)
 “Forgive ... Again”**



#6. FORGIVE . . . AGAIN. Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you’re struggling to forgive.

Scriptures: Matthew 6: 13-14; Ephesians 4: 31; Colossians 3: 13

“The Bible connects our duties as saved people with the acts of God and Jesus Christ. The small word ‘as’ often serves as the link. ‘Love one another as I have loved you’ (John 15: 12). ‘Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive’ (Colossians 3: 13).

Robert Roberts says that forgiveness means letting go of anger we have a right to. To do this takes a lot of spiritual muscle, and the job is impossible for people who themselves feel unforgiven. But forgiveness is the soul of our life together. We are forgiven to forgive.”

- Cornelius Plantinga Jr., *Beyond Doubt: Faith-Building Devotions on Questions Christians Ask*

The next time you pray the Lord’s Prayer slow down when you say, “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.” Are you hearing what you are praying? I hope so — for your sake and for ours as a Church Family. Each week, at least; and more like several times a day, I need God’s forgiveness. This is I know. But for me to only ask for forgiveness while not giving it is to pray only the first half of that sentence. I have to forgive those who have hurt me in real or imagined ways if I want to be free and stay free.

This is not easy to do. You need a community who is deeply committed to forgiveness as a natural and necessary way of life. Here at First Pres you have that community. This means that we regularly confess our sins as we regularly forgive one another. We pray for our enemies including those we resent or hate. We learn about forgiveness and seek help if we don’t know how to do it. We talk about and model forgiveness for our children and the children and youth of our congregation. We encourage each other to forgive everyone everything.

I hope this particular Way catches on like the dry wood in your fireplace so that First Presbyterian Church radiates the warmth of love and the freedom of forgiveness.

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

Lenten Small Groups Start Ash Wednesday Week (see pg. 3)



The church office and Step by Step Christian Preschool will be CLOSED Monday, February 18 for Presidents Day.



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.

2019-20 Preschool Registration Open

Step by Step Christian Preschool is accepting enrollment for its 2019-20 classes. Classes begin in September 2019 and are available for 2 1/2-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 Per Capita Giving

This week information was mailed to member households 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 to support the General Assembly, Synod and 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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Removal of the Commons Lobby flooring will begin the week of Feb. 18-22 and new carpeting will be installed. The goal is for work to be completed by Sunday, Feb. 24 but your patience is appreciated during this major renovation. Please see Page 4 for a revised kids and youth schedule.

Entry to the building will be by the BACK STAFF LOT ONLY by the church offices.

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 mybaseballboys@yahoo.com or Gayle Payne at (856) 235-2708 or dpayne4501@aol.com. Please remember church meetings may need to be relocated to other rooms for the week of the sale.

Serve as an Elder, Deacon or Trustee

The Nominations Committee is accepting submissions for members 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).

Stephen Ministry

Having someone to listen to you can be a very important way to deal with life's difficulties. Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and give uniquely one on one Christian care to others. If you need a Stephen Minister or know someone who does call Jan Amos at 856-234-0924 or the church office.



TODAY: Lenten Study Sign Ups Available

COMING IN MARCH: Our Lenten study this year will be the book "Everybody Always" by author Bob Goff. SIGN UP TODAY in the Commons Lobby — there are groups meeting on a variety of dates; find the small group that works for you. Classes will begin the week of Ash Wednesday (March 6) and run through Easter. Books can be purchased for \$10 through the church office. For details contact Kelly LePenske or Becca Neindorff.



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 a current capacity or think about trying something new. There are countless ways the church can utilize your skills.

If you won't be in worship Feb. 24, please print off the Service Pledge Form and turn into the church office.

Annual Giving Statements

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

Friday Nighters March I

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!

Spring Inquirers Class Features One-Day Format

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 service. For questions or to sign up contact the church office or Joyce Wenzke at jwenzke@aol.com. Please note if child care is needed.



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

Ash Wednesday Worship

Ash Wednesday worship will be March 6 at 7:00 p.m. beginning the Journey of Lent. The service will be marked by prayers, reflection and the imposition of ashes.

March 7th Lunch Bunch

The March Lunch Bunch will feature Pastoral Associate Kelly LePenske as the guest speaker. Come hear Kelly's faith story and what she loves about FPCM. Enjoy a traditional Irish feast of corned beef and cabbage, potatoes and Irish bread. \$5.00 per person



Order Easter Flowers

Orders for Easter Flowers will be taken March 17, 24 and 31 to decorate our worship spaces with the symbol of renewal. Order forms will be available in Connections and on the church website www.fpcmoorestown.org. Flowers are \$12 each and assorted spring varieties. For questions contact Rachel Scarborough in the office at 856-235-1688, Ext. 124.

Friday E-blast

The church has transitioned to a new eblast system and database, so if you're NOT receiving the Friday eblast let Jan Martin in the office know (Ext. 133).

Dedicate Worship Flowers

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. Dates are filling up quickly so call today to honor your special anniversaries.

