



IHN families will be here the week of February 3-10

Kids Groups Are Back!

Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone kids groups returned on Wednesday, January 30 from Winter Break.



Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) meets from 4:45-5:45 pm.

Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) meets from 6:30-7:30 pm. Welcome back, friends!

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

Youth News (see website)
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](mailto:Dan.Wonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org) or cell/text (856) 745-6596

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

Come Have Family Dinner With Us

Our Wednesday Family Dinner resumed from winter break on January 30. From 6-7 pm, 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 6:** Hot Dogs, Sloppy Joes, Tater Tots, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Beverages

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.

FPCM Way of the Week (February 3-10)

#4: ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

Scriptures: 1 Thessalonians 1: 3-4; Acts 11: 22-23



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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 3**
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](mailto:church.office@fpcmoorestown.org).



Connections



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

February 3-10, 2019

GRACE NOTES "Always Encourage and Celebrate"

THE FPCM WAY OF THE WEEK (February 3-10)

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A Lutheran pastor named Walter Wangerin once had two very ordinary encounters with two different gas station attendants. These encounters happened years ago, years before one could swipe a credit card at the pump. Back then, you handed money or a credit card to an attendant.

One rainy day Pastor Wangerin pulled his car into a station. A young employee walked towards him and greeting him with "Hello." The exchange was simple. The attendant pumped the gas, the pastor paid with exact change. When the pastor slid back into the driver's seat, his son asked his Dad why he was smiling. It was probably the attendant's handshake and his "thank you" given while looking directly into the eyes of Walter.

The second encounter occurred inside a gas station. This time, the attendant, a woman sat behind Plexiglas counter reading a book. Where she was wasn't a problem for Pastor Wangerin. The problem was the woman's attitude. With curt sentences spoken with clear annoyance, this woman made the pastor feel like a burden and a waste of her time.

Two forgettable meetings but the first left Walter built up and the second deflated him. He wrote later, "Every time you meet another human being you have the opportunity. It's a chance at holiness. For you will do one of two things, then. Either you will build him up, or you will tear him down. Either you will acknowledge that he is, or you will make him sorry that he is—sorry, at least, that he is there, in front of you. You will create, or you will destroy. And the things you dignify or deny are God's own property . . .

And I say to you, 'There are no useless, minor meetings. There are no dead-end jobs. There are no pointless lives. Swallow your sorrows, forget your grievances and all the hurt your poor life has sustained. Turn your face truly to the human before you and let them, for one pure moment, shine. Think her important, and then she will suspect that she is fashioned of God.'

Go and be builders of one another. Speak your love, articulate your appreciation, let those you cherish—at home, school, work and here—know that they are fashioned of God.

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

**TODAY: Congregational Meeting and Luncheon
in Fellowship Hall ~ 12:15 p.m. (see page 2)**



THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE has been at work securing members to lead our search for a new Associate Pastor. The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) will design and implement a search plan, review resumes and meet and interview candidates considered for the position. They will present a qualified candidate to our congregation for consideration. The search will be intense and your prayers for the journey are welcome. We are pleased to present the following candidates to form the APNC, with a formal vote to confirm their call at the Annual Meeting: **Dave Adams, Adrienne Barr, Marsha Booker, Kevin Fauvell, Jane Murphy and Carole Wehn.**

February Lunch Bunch Thursday, February 7 (noon)

The children from our Step by Step Christian Preschool will entertain and hand out Valentines. Cuteness overload! Donation: \$5.00 each please.



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.

- Stewardship Committee

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.

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 (jwwenzke@aol.com) or Brian Perkowski (perkowskibk@comcast.net).

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.

Adult Education

Seminary interns Caitlyn Posey and Chris Palmer lead a course on Acts touching on themes and narratives exploring how the first Christians conceived of their own cultural moment in the 1st century. Class is for all stages of faith. Guide books available for \$15 in class. 9:45-10:45 am, Fellowship Hall. Class ends March 3. The 3 C’s discussion class meets Sunday mornings in the Lounge, led by Lorenzo Eagles.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Lunch

*The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, New Jersey, in accordance with the Church Bylaws, has called the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation for **Sunday, February 3, 2019, immediately following 11:00 am worship, in Fellowship Hall. A luncheon will be provided prior to the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to hear committee reports, receive the 2019 church budget, approve the 2019 pastor’s terms of call, approve the sale of 202 S. Church St., Moorestown; elect an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, and conduct any other business which should rightfully come before the congregation. No other business may be brought before the congregation other than the preceding item. Copies of the Annual Report were available at church Sunday, Jan. 27 and will be available at the meeting.***



Knitting Network Love

The Knitting Network thanks all who generously supported the Mitten Tree. The many items have been distributed to needy children. In 2018 13 prayer shawls were given mostly to church members. 197 items were donated to children in 6 local hospitals or facilities. Been away from knitting for a while? Come to our next meeting from 10-12 noon in Room 2 on **March 2** and we can help you get back in!

Annual Giving Statements

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

IHN Here February 3-10

Come help host these families in need. There are many ways to help! Contact Deacon Chris Catanella at (941) 773-3001 cell/text or email: Christine.catanella@gmail.com.

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!



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.

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 plus 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.*



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 gatherings 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.

