

FAMILY MINISTRY

Youth Choir Concert — Sunday, May 19 (7:00 p.m.)



Enjoy your Spring Break!

Sun. April 21: NO Wave

Wed. April 24: NO Primary Choir, Choristers, Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, or Flock

End of Year Parties

PARENTS: Watch for emails with details to sign up!

- ⇒ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) will be **May 1** at Pump It Up
- ⇒ Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) will be **May 8** at Sky Zone.
- ⇒ Flock (7-8) end of the year party is Wednesday, **May 8**.

Youth News

- ◆ **NOTICE: Please check the church calendar for Spring Break event cancellations (April 19-28).**
- ◆ **Great Escape Trip (\$500)** — Middle school trip for an awesome week of worship, engaging speakers, new friends and a college campus! Scholarships available. July 22-27, 2019

Have questions? Contact [Dan Wonneberger](mailto:Dan.Wonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org) or cell/text (856) 745-6596

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
Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good."

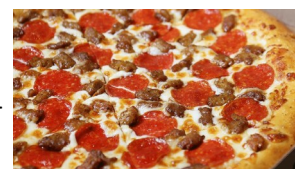
- Romans 12: 9

For Families and Children:
Holly Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116
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For Families and Youth:
Dan Wonneberger
856-745-6596 (cell/text)
dwnonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org

Important Family Ministry Dates

CONGRATULATIONS! Grades 2-3 and Grade 4 classes tied as winners for the One Great Hour of Sharing fish box offering. Great job kids! Winning classes earned a pizza party with Pastor Stuart and Mrs. Spencer. The party will be **Sunday, April 28** in Room 3-4 after the 11:00 a.m. contemporary worship. Our Sunday School students raised \$340 for One Great Hour of Sharing this year!



- ◆ **Wave** (grades 9-12) ends Sunday, May 5. **Flock** (grades 7-8) ends **Wednesday, May 8** with its end of year party.
- ◆ **Sunday School ends on May 19.** Teacher Appreciation will be at both services.

⇒ **SAVE THE DATE: Vacation Bible School! June 24-28 from 9:00 a.m.—12 noon. Look for registration soon!**

THANKS for a fun year with Family Dinner. Family Dinner concluded April 10.

WELCOME CHANGE

FPCM Way of the Week (April 21-28)

#15: WELCOME CHANGE. Be curious about new ideas, perspectives, and approaches. Get excited by the possibilities that change can bring. What worked in the past won't always work in the future, for God is doing new things.

Scriptures: Mark 2: 22, Revelation 21: 6

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

Kelly LePenske
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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.

EDUCATION HOUR April 21, 2019

No Sunday School or Adult Education today

Read about the new adult education series starting April 28 (see page 2).

"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

April 21-28, 2019

GRACE NOTES

FPCM Way of the Week (April 21-28, 2019)

WELCOME CHANGE

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AT THE START OF 2019 when we rolled out our twenty-five Ways Statements and assigned each Way for a particular week, we had no idea that number fifteen, "Welcome Change" would be introduced on Easter Sunday. It is; and I can't think of a better Sunday to get us thinking about new ideas, perspectives and approaches.

Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons!
2 Corinthians 5:17, The Message

In thinking about discipleship recently, I found this great definition of a disciple written by Robert Webber, *"Becoming a disciple of Jesus means that you have become a new person. The term used by Jesus is "born again" (John 3: 3 – 8) It's a new start in life, a new way to understand yourself, to treat others, to see the world."* Easter tells us that God is in the business of making all things new, including you, me, and First Presbyterian Church for starters.

Someone's going to ask, "What's wrong with the old? Is there a problem with how we've always done it?" Old isn't worse and new isn't better, necessarily. Yet we always have to be on the lookout for staying comfortable and digging ruts. And you know that ruts are nothing more than coffins with the ends kicked out. One thing I know is that God isn't much interested in our comfort as He is in our character. And the shaping of our individual character and our church's character will require openness to the new while maintaining respect for the past.

Years ago, when I was a high school student, I hung a poster in my bedroom. It showed a hill covered in blooming flowers. The caption said, *"It's always springtime in the heart that loves God."*

Be new, First Pres! Welcome change. It's springtime; it's Easter.

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

The church office is CLOSED Easter Monday, April 22. See the church calendar for Spring Break cancellations April 19-28.



Lent, Holy Week and Easter Worship Schedule

- ♦ **Easter Sunrise**
6:30 am, Cemetery
- ♦ **Easter Worship-Contemp.**
8:30 am, Miller Commons
- ♦ **Easter Worship-Traditional**
9:30 am, Sanctuary
- ♦ **Easter Worship-Traditional**
11:00 am, Sanctuary
- ♦ No Adult Ed or Sunday School on Easter

Give your Easter Gift online at
www.fpcmoorestown.org.

Arabic Evangelical Church of South Jersey invites you to hear Rev. Dr. Adrea Zaki, President of the Protestant Churches in Egypt and President, Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Church.
TOPIC: Political Islam, Citizenship and Minorities; The Future of Arab Christians in the Middle East.

Sunday, May 12 ~ 3:30-5:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

Mexico City Exploratory Mission Trip

We will be heading to Mexico City for a 4-day exploratory mission trip from **Nov. 8-11** to learn more about the ministry of Urban Mosaic. Trip cost is approx. \$500. Our goal is to visit and learn about the ministry so that we can report about ways to be involved with this ministry. Want to join our team? Email Linda at missions@fpcmoorestown.org

Staff News

New Hire: We are pleased to announce the hiring of **Steve Margerum** to the property team as a part-time staffer. Steve will be assisting with evening and weekend lock-ups and maintenance/mechanical work. Steve and his wife Chelsea just joined the church in the last Inquirers Class.

IHN Here April 28-May 5; Helpers Needed!

The week after Easter, our church is hosting families in transition with Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). Volunteers are needed April 28-May 5 to help with evening dinners, sleepovers, driving and visiting with our guests. New volunteers eagerly welcome!! Contact Deacon Chris Catanella at christine.catanella@gmail.com.

Adult Ed April 28-May 5

"Church in Blue: Faith from Augustine to Coltrane"

This two-week class explores the way that certain theological ideas informed (and continue to inform) the composition of Western music over the ages. It briefly explores how music has given voice to faith over Christian history, and it asks how these conversations might be relevant to our faith lives today. Led by Chris Palmer.

Couples Retreat

Registration Due April 25, 2019

"The Heart of Marriage"

May 17-19, 2019

Hosts: Stuart and Leslie Spencer
The Inn of Cape May
Cape May, New Jersey
\$395 per couple, includes 2 nights lodging, meals

SIGN UP: <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/198319>

Learn about ALPHA

On **Wednesday, April 24** the spring series of ALPHA begins with an introductory meeting. The 10-week series begins **May 1**. The course meets on Wednesday evenings and one weekend and consists of dinner at 6:00 pm followed by a DVD lesson and discussion. Designed for people who are new to the faith and want to understand Christian beliefs. Open to the public. Sign up online at www.fpcmoorestown.org or with Jim Cole at (856) 296-5732 or jamescole7@comcast.net.

Calendar Dates Needed

At its summer planning sessions, the staff will be reviewing Summer and 2019-2020 program year (Sept. 2019-June 2020). Committee chairs and coordinators are asked to please submit to Jan Martin all schedules and room requests for events, small groups, committee meetings, worship, rehearsals, activities and outside groups for 2019-20.

⇒ Tuesday, May 7 — Summer Planning (dates & room requests due by **May 1**)

⇒ Tuesday, June 4 — Annual Planning (dates & room requests due by **May 22**)

May 2, 2019
National Day of Prayer



April Session Meeting

Tuesday, April 30th ~ 7:00 p.m.

(moved from April 23)

NEW: Prayer Walk May 4

"You're Invited! May 4th come be a part of the River of Prayer, flowing from FPCM Room 3/4 beginning at 8:30 am with a light breakfast. From there at about 9:00 am, we'll cascade through the streets and neighborhoods of our town and congregation, praying for God's grace and guidance, Presence and power to spread throughout the community. Scripture guides will be available. Look for the map in the Commons Lobby! Please RSVP on FPC's website Coming Events. Contact: [Joyce Peacock](mailto:Joyce.Peacock@fpcmoorestown.org) 609-923-4135.

Alternative Gifts for Mother's and Father's Day

Consider giving an alternative gift this year to benefit scholarships for Nurses and Midwives to the MBF Hospital in Haiti. Special cards with art from the students at Urban Promise can be used to give your alternate gift. Visit the Missionwares store!

May 11 Pedal for Promise
www.urbanpromiseusa.org/pedal

Blood Drive Comes to FPC

Celebrate life with your gift of blood! We will be holding our annual blood drive for the American Red Cross on **Friday, May 17** in Miller Commons from 1 - 6 pm. To sign up contact Debbie Heller at 856-273-6838 or email dheller374@comcast.net, or visit redcrossblood.org/give and enter "First Presbyterian Moorestown." YOU ARE APPRECIATED!

Preschool Registration!

Classes begin in September 2019 and are available for 2 ½ year olds, 3-year olds and 4-year olds. Step by Step Christian Preschool offers flexible options for morning or afternoon sessions for 2, 3, 4 or 5 days a week, and is open to members of the church and residents of the surrounding communities. Visit our website fpcmoorestown.org/step-by-step-preschool for more information!

Officer Training Dates

Incoming Elders, Deacons and Trustees will have Officer Training on two Wednesdays, May 8 and May 15 from 6:30-8:00 pm in Room 8. Please attend both sessions. Examination by Session will be on Sunday, May 19 after the 11:00 am service, lunch included. To RSVP contact [Jan Martin](mailto:Jan.Martin@fpcmoorestown.org) at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 133.

Friday Nighters

Please join Friday Nighters for its last event of the season on **Friday, May 3** at 6:30 pm: "Civil War Nurses". Learn of the different paths by which these women entered nursing, some of whom only did so because they were caught up in the circumstances of war. Catered dinner - \$10 per person RSVP to Betty Schurmann (609) 315-7871 by Monday, April 29th

May Lunch Bunch

Thursday, May 2 at 12 noon; Program: "The Gratitude Train" presented by Jane Murphy. Learn about this little known expression of thanks from the people of France. Enjoy this special fellowship time. \$5.00/person please.

Staff Profile: Holly Asciutto

Holly Asciutto has worked as the Director of Family & Children's Ministries since 2006. Holly views serving kids and their families as a privilege and has spent the last thirteen years introducing Jesus to children from birth to sixth grade and beyond. Her ministry passions include Sunday School, VBS!, mentoring, teaching, coaching families to experience and see Jesus in everyday life, and witnessing God's love and grace together as a church family. She likes to spend time during the week in the Step by Step Preschool where she has spiritual oversight. She is married with two incredible children Anthony (married to Katrina with a baby on the way) and Cassie. Her life passions are family, art, travel, the beach, French fries, and Jesus!



A member of the Prayer Committee is available in the Prayer Room between services for personal prayer

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers join the church in welcoming change. The greatest change of all is Christ's resurrection. Next week we will commission four new Stephen Ministers. If you need a change and would like to have a Stephen Minister, contact Doris Kahley at 609-2618484 or call the church office.

Haiti 2020

Save the date! January 4-11, 2020 we will again be heading to Haiti for a mission trip. Contact [Linda Jagiela](mailto:Linda.Jagiela@fpcmoorestown.org) at (267) 275-7582.