

FAMILY MINISTRY



Welcome to Kayla Uibel, Vacation Bible School Summer Intern

Calling all Cookie Makers and Buyers!



On Friday, June 28, our Vacation Bible School week concludes with the special Closing Program at 10:00 am. There is a cookie reception after the event and we need your help filling up the tables with delicious treats! There will be a bin in the Commons Lobby for you to place donated cookies. Gluten-free and nut-free cookies also accepted!

Congratulations Confirmation Class

On May 22, our CREDO students presented their thoughtful Statements of Faith to Session and became official members of First Presbyterian Church. They were recognized in worship Sunday, June 2. Please welcome our newest church members:

Emily Blaskovich, Chase Cristella, Bobby Dominy, Kaitlyn Eagles, Bryan Gaskill, Jacqueline Grant, Jack Legath, Charlie Moxhay, Christian Schad, and Sophie Wilt

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

"I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy; your young will see visions and your old will dream dreams. In those days I will pour out my Spirit upon all my servants, men and women alike . . ."

Acts 2: 17, 18

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



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL *ROAR! Life is Wild. God is good.*

June 24-28
9:00 a.m.-12 noon each day

Who: Children entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade (FALL 2019).
*In signups please enter **current** grade.*
Cost: \$20 per child (\$15 for second child)
When: REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **June 16, 2019**
Register: www.fpcmoorestown.org/kids



AT ROAR VBS, kids discover that even though life gets wild, *God is good*. Roar is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste! Team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the activities that help faith flow into real life. For more information contact Holly Ascitutto at 856-235-1688, Ext. 116 or email hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.

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Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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Kelly LePenske
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SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

(Memorial Day through Labor Day, May 26-Sept. 1)
- 9:00 am Traditional
- 10:30 am Contemporary

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

EDUCATION HOUR

Sunday School and Adult Education ended on Sunday, May 26. There is no education offered in the summer months.

Kids and Adults:
We will see you in September!

"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

June 9-16, 2019

GRACE NOTES FPCM Way of the Week (June 9-16, 2019)



#22: REST AND REFLECT. Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.

Scriptures: Genesis 2: 2-3; Matthew 11: 28; Mark 2: 27

"Because we do not rest, we lost our way." - Wayne Muller

A week ago I spent several days at Holy Cross Monastery leading our Spring Prayer Retreat. I keep going back to Holy Cross for several reasons: it's a God-soaked place where I am able to worship and pray; sitting on a bluff overlooking the Hudson River, it's a place of beauty no matter the season of the year. But I also return to Holy Cross Monastery because I need a regular time of rest.

I needed rest again last week. I had been running hard since January. I knew I was tired and when I finally had the chance to stop there at the monastery, I really understood that I was worn out. Another pastor who joined us on the retreat spent much of the first days sleeping. She needed to flop down for a while. In my book, that's good use of retreat time.

Why are we so tired? While at Holy Cross, our group read and reflected upon Ruth Haley Barton's book, *Invitation to Retreat*. In a chapter that explores our exhaustion, the author offers several reasons why we're running on empty:

*We're functioning out of an inordinate sense of ought and should.
We find it difficult or even humiliating to receive help from others.
We might be living more as a performer than as the person God created us to be.
We may have few or no boundaries on our service and availability to others.
We are carrying the great burden of unhealed wounds—sadness, unresolved tension, toxicity in one or more of our relationships.
We may be experiencing information overload.
We may be mired in our own willfulness.*

Maybe now you see that you're exhausted, perhaps dangerously so. You now have the permission of the Lord Jesus Christ to rest. Please, go ahead and flop down. Rest.

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

Vacation Bible School Deadline June 16
Adult volunteers are particularly needed!

'The Church Has Left the Building' Kickoff Meeting

On **Thursday, June 13th** we have a kickoff meeting for 'The Church Has Left the Building' church-wide Day of Service, planned for Oct. 27th. If you would like to be involved in planning the event, have ideas for activities or would like to lead a team, we want you! Please plan to attend to start the ball rolling. Hayes Room, 7:00 p.m.



June 10, 2019
Happy 1-Year Anniversary
Kelly LePenskel

Doug Derry to be Installed as Presbytery Moderator

On **Tuesday, June 18** FPC will host the Stated Meeting of the West Jersey Presbytery. Light refreshments will be served from 6-7 pm. The Worship meeting will begin at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary and will mark the Installation of our own Doug Derry as Moderator of the West Jersey Presbytery. *All are invited to celebrate this evening!* Please contact [Jan Martin](#) in the church office at (856) 235-1688.

**June Session Meeting
June 25, 2019 ~ 7:00 pm
Welcome New Elders**

IHN Here July 14-21
We will be hosting guests from Interfaith Hospitality Network here from July 14-21. Volunteers are needed for meal preparation, visiting, driving and overnight accommodations. Contact Deacon [Chris Catanella](#) to learn more ...

Fifth Sunday June 30

June is a five-Sunday month which means we will gather for one combined worship service at **9:30 a.m.** in the sanctuary followed by a special fellowship time in Miller Commons. What an awesome time to bring a friend to First Presbyterian Church!



**(Memorial Day-Labor Day)
9:00 a.m. Traditional
10:30 am Contemporary**

Prayer Labyrinth

Ethan Gaskill, as part of his Eagle Scout Project, will be landscaping the new Prayer Labyrinth on the FPC church grounds. This prayer walk, which is located by the cemetery entrance, is to be named in honor of Associate Pastor Dr. Richard Herman. Ethan's fundraising goal is \$1,000 and he is currently accepting donations. Checks should be made out to Troop 76. If there are excess funds upon completion of the project, they will be donated back to FPC Moorestown.

First Front Yard Fellowship a Success

It was a festive outing last Sunday for our initial Front Yard Fellowship, coordinated by one of our small groups. There was warm sunshine, delicious burgers, laughter, potluck dishes, lawn chairs and fellowship. Three additional Front Yard Fellowship outings are scheduled: Tuesday, July 16 (6-8 pm), Tuesday, Aug. 20 (6-8 pm) and Sunday, Sept. 8 at noon after Fall Kickoff.

Spring Gathering for Women of the Church

Attention Women of the Church! Women of all ages are invited to a Spring Gathering of Presbyterian Women on **Monday, June 17th** at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Scrumptious appetizers and desserts will be served followed by a program "Four Letter Words," by Rev. Dr. Deborah Brincivalli, Executive Presbyter from the West Jersey Presbytery. Bring a Friend!

RSVP to Jane Murphy at mrsmurphyiii@gmail.com or on sign up sheets in the Commons Lobby.



**62nd Strawberry Festival
Friday, June 7 (6-9 pm)**

THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered, attended, bought tickets, sold tickets, grilled burgers, watched children, baked and bought cakes, dished ice cream, hulled strawberries, brainstormed new ideas, attended committee meetings, created flyers, made phone calls and supported this church-wide fundraiser for missions and community outreach. **SPECIAL THANKS** to our incredible co-chairs Laurie and Anthony LaMonica, and April Meyers and LeLand Butler!



Let the hulling begin!

**Communications Focus
Groups Meet in June**

Elders, Deacons, Trustees and Staff will be meeting with communications consultants in order to analyze our church communications. The marketing firm of DeeterUSA has been hired to review our print and digital communications such as bulletins, *Connections*, prayer list, website, eblasts, flyers and surveys. Please check your email for an RSVP link and select the date that works best for you:

- Wed. June 12 (2:30-4:30 pm)
- Wed. June 12 (6:30-8:30 pm)
- Sat. June 15 (8:30-10:30 am)



**June 9 is Pentecost
"Birthday of the Church"
(wear red)**

**This Father's Day
Select an Alternative Gift**

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 off the lobby.



**June 22 Here I Am, Lord
Service Day**

On **Saturday, June 22** we will be working with [Feeding 5000](#), a Philadelphia outreach. We will meet at New Covenant Presbyterian Church (240 Creek Road, Mt. Laurel) at 8:30 am to make sandwiches then head to Philly to feed the hungry on Logan Square. All ages welcome! Sign up on our website. Back around 1:00 pm-ish.

Staff Profile:

Rev. Stuart Spencer

Our pastor began his tenure at First Presbyterian Church on May 8, 2018 and just celebrated his one-year anniversary.



Stuart came to FPC from Thompson Memorial Presbyterian Church in New Hope, PA where he served for 23 years as Pastor/Head of Staff. He maintains a special emphasis on teaching people how to grow their Christian faith. Prior to his ministry at Thompson Memorial, Stuart served for six years as an Associate Pastor at United Presbyterian Church of Manoa in Havertown, PA, where he was mentored by then senior pastor Dr. Jonathan Miller. Spencer attended Fuller Theological Seminar and graduated with a Master of Divinity in 1989. He and his wife Leslie, a professor in the Department of Health and Exercise Science at Rowan University, take pride in their two sons Sam, a rising junior at Trinity College, and Miles, a rising 10th grader at Moorestown HS. Spare time? Pastors don't get much of that, but Stuart's favorite hobbies include fitness, walking their dog Elsie, and cooking Mexican food.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers provide distinctive Christian care to help those who need someone to be there for them. If you need a Stephen Minister or know someone who does, contact Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or d.kahley@verizon.net call the church office. We're here for you.



Independence Day Holiday:

**Church Closed
July 4-5**