

FAMILY MINISTRY

Denmark Youth Choir Tour: July 28-August 7. Safe Travels!

Hope you're having a great summer!

Save The Date:
Fall Kickoff & Bible Sunday
Sunday, September 8

Fall Kickoff, Meet your Teachers, Bible Sunday

Return to regular worship times:

8:30 a.m. Traditional (Sanctuary)

9:45-10:45 a.m.: Sunday School & Adult Education

11:00 a.m. Contemporary (Miller Commons)

Summer Youth Happenings

Gather with your friends throughout the summer to hang out at the church and just "be" with one another:

⇒ **Middle Schoolers Get Together** — Wednesday afternoons 4-6 p.m.

⇒ **High Schoolers Get Together** — Monday evenings 6-8 p.m.

Contact Youth Director Dan Wonneberger at cell/text (856) 745-6596, Instagram or dwonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org.

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

"That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty."

- Ecclesiastes 12: 13

For Families and Children:

Holly Ascitto

856-235-1688, x116

hascitto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth:

Dan Wonneberger

856-745-6596 (cell/text)

dwonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org



Interested in Acolyting?

The Worship Committee is preparing the acolyte schedule for 2019-2020. Any parents of youth second grade or older who are interested in acolyting please contact Sarah Rotter at sarah.rotter@gmail.com or (609) 332-9067 cell/text. This is a wonderful way to engage children in worship and bring the light of Christ.

Summer Mission Trips for Youth

Please pray for a meaningful, safe and joyful mission experience for our contingent of middle schoolers, who will be attending the Great Escape conference July 22-27 in Johnstown, PA along with several hundred of their closest friends. In August, a group of our high schoolers will be participating in a local hands-on mission effort in Philadelphia August 9-11.

Pastor Time Away

Pastor Spencer will be traveling with the Denmark Touring Choir July 28-August 7 in Scandinavia. He will return for a week then will be on vacation with his family August 14-26, returning to the office Tuesday, August 27. On Sunday, Aug. 18 we will welcome to the pulpit guest preacher Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli, Executive Presbyter of the West Jersey Presbytery. Pastoral Associate Kelly LePenske will preach on Sunday, August 25. For pastoral care and concerns during this time, please contact the church office at (856) 235-1688 or Jan Martin at jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org.



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

Kelly LePenske
Pastoral Associate
klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

SUMMER WORSHIP

(Memorial Day through Labor Day)

- 9:00 am Traditional
- 10:30 am Contemporary

Connect. Devote. Serve. Worship.

EDUCATION HOUR

Children's Sunday school and Adult Education take a break for the summer months.

Kids and Adults:
We will see you on Sunday, September 8 for Fall Kickoff!

"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

July 14-28, 2019

GRACE NOTES

July 14-28, 2019 (double issue)

FPCM Ways of the Week (July 14-28, 2019)



WAY #2: SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE (July 14-21).

Speak honestly and directly in a way that clearly reflects love and support for one another. Be courageous enough to say what needs to be said, even when it's difficult. Address issues directly with those who are involved or affected; speak to, not about, others. (Ephesians 4: 15)

The best speech is direct speech. Follow straight lines with one another. This Way sets us on the Point A to Point B road to others. No detours to talk *about* the one you need to address. No turning the other way to *avoid* the tough conversations. We're learning at FPCM to be direct and straight with each other. You know why we are? It's easier, that's why. I've found that when I put off what needs to be said that I end up carrying a burden that I don't need to shoulder. The longer I carry it the heavier it becomes. By speaking the truth with love I'm really living love; and living love is lighter by far. Please think: what do I need to say? Say it straight with love.



WAY #3: LISTEN GENEROUSLY (July 21-28). *Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand. (James 1: 19, 20)*

Listen generously . . . or else! I've come to believe that as I stop listening I'm probably going to start hurting. I'm more likely to lose my composure when I'm not listening. I'm far more inclined to say a wrong or stupid thing when I'm not listening. I'm certainly in a great position to say or do something I regret.

Listen generously . . . and watch the healing flow! When I'm listening well to Leslie or my sons, we're always in a better place as a family. My best listening happens when I'm face-to-face with the other—no phones, no laptops, no newspapers and no TV between us. Listening draws me into the one I love. There are few better gifts to give than generous listening.

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

SUMMER UPDATE to the Membership Directory is available in the Commons Lobby. Please let the office know of any corrections.

IMPORTANT**New Locking System to be Installed August 1**

The church will be installing new doors locks on August 1. **The building doors will now be unlocked from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each evening (if events are scheduled).** Entry doors will be the glass lobby doors and the back staff lot door. If you have keys to the church, kindly return them to the table outside Missionwares for recycling. For questions please contact Earl Gage at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 106 or egage@fpcmoorestown.org.

IHN Here July 14-21

We will be hosting families in transition here from July 14-21 through our partnership with Interfaith Hospitality Network. Volunteers are always needed to assist with meal preparation, visiting, driving and overnight accommodations. Contact Deacon [Chris Cattanella](#) at 941-773-3001 cell.

Parking Lot Update

The start date (weather permitting) for the parking lot reconstruction will be **Monday, July 29th**. The July 28th departure for the Denmark trip will be unaffected however no vehicles will be able to be left here. The contractor anticipates finishing the two smaller lots (estimated 1-2 days each) before beginning work on the large lot. The primary lot will take up to two weeks, or one Sunday. The goal (again weather permitting) is to complete the milling, grading, etc. July 28-Aug. 3. If work moves along there may be limited parking on the first Sunday (August 4th) but just on a layer of gravel and sand. The second week will be paving, striping, etc. For questions please contact [Earl Gage](#) at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 106.

Front Yard Fellowship

We had an awesome time at our first Front Yard Fellowship on June 2 coordinated by one of our small groups! Is your small group wondering what to do this summer? Join hands with FYF to love people, BBQ and keep the fun going! Send Kelly an e-mail at klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org.

FRONT YARD FELLOWSHIP
Tuesday, July 16th ~ 6-8 pm
Bring a dish to share, lawn chair ... and a friend!

**The Lord's Supper**

Communion for July will be on **July 14** (moved from July 7). Communion in August will be on **August 11** (moved from August 4).

NEW: PW Matching Game

LOOKING FOR persons with great detective skills to enter our contest. Match the sweet children with the 12 lovely ladies of the PW Coordinating Team and win a prize. ALL members, staff, visitors, men women and children are eligible to win. Check out the bulletin board across from the kitchen for pictures and entry forms. Contest ends **July 12th**.

Deacon Toiletry Drive Items Due Back July 14

Thank you to all who donated toiletries for the Deacon toiletry drive. If you have personal care items to donate, please leave them in the shopping cart in the Commons Lobby.

Denmark Touring Choir Performs Special Concert Here on July 21

This summer a group of 52 singers aged third grade to college, will travel overseas for a nine-concert performing tour July 28-Aug. 7. Thirty-five adults will oversee the group. The choir will perform seven concerts in Denmark, one in Germany and one in Sweden in historic churches.

On **Sunday, June 21**, be the first to experience these remarkable voices as the Denmark Choir performs a preview concert at FPCM at 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. The tour participants will be commissioned at the 9:00 am traditional worship that day, and bulletins will include a daily Devotional so you can follow along each day through prayer. This will be the fourth FPCM Denmark tour; others were in 2006, 2009 and 2015.

Fall Worship Schedule

At its June 25 meeting, the Session approved the fall worship schedule beginning Sunday, September 8, 2019. See the Friday eblast and your mail for a letter from Rev. Spencer:

8:30 a.m.

Traditional (Sanctuary)

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Sunday School/Adult Education

11:00 a.m.

Contemporary (Miller Commons)

Stephen Ministry

In the summer, many people go on vacation and take time to relax. But for someone who is having a difficult time, the ability to relax is not there. You might want to ask for a Stephen Minister to listen to your difficulties. We are here for you or someone you know. Call Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or call the church office.

July Session Meeting

Tuesday, July 23

Reports due to the church office by 12 Noon Friday, July 19

Dine and Donate for Missions

Sunday, August 11

[Bertucci's Italian Restaurant](#)

1220 Nixon Drive

Mount Laurel

(by Moorestown Mall)

Fitness Discount

Please contact Nancy Burkley at naburk@rcn.com if you would like to obtain a group discount for using Virtua Fitness in Moorestown.

New Devotional Guides Available for Ways 1-5

The next round of our 25 Ways culture statements began July 7. Follow along with a beautiful new 5-week daily devotional guide for Ways 1-5, including related scriptures and illustrations. Suggested donation is \$10 each; all proceeds will support our prayer ministry. The book is part of a 5-book set, with each addressing five Ways. Get yours in the Commons Lobby on Sundays, the church office, or text "\$10 pray" to 84321. If you already have an account you will simply be charged. If you haven't used our online donations, you will be guided through a simple process. Want to have the complete 5-book set? It's yours! Suggested donation \$50. Contact the church office at (856) 235-1688.

NEW: Summer Inquirers Class August 10-11 for Prospective Members

Are you interested in learning more about our church and possibly joining our congregation? We invite you to attend our Summer Inquirers Class **August 10-11**. Sessions are designed to allow participants to share and receive information on the meaning of membership in the Presbyterian Church. Coffee and lunch will be provided on Saturday. Lunch will also be provided for the Sunday meeting with Session. Our session, our church's governing body, asks those interested to please attend both sessions. The class will meet at the following times and dates:

- ♦ **Saturday, Aug. 10:** 9 am-3 pm (Room 3-4)
- ♦ **Sunday, Aug. 11:** 11:30 am-1:00 pm (Room 3-4)

Those who complete the class and desire to join First Presbyterian Church will be welcomed as new members in September during morning worship.

Please reserve your space by contacting Alison Mackey in the church office at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 113 or via email at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org. Childcare is available as needed, so please indicate if needed.

It's Coming: "The Church Has Left the Building"

Planning Event: Thursday, Aug. 1, 7:00 p.m. The Planning Committee is currently assembling a list of possible service projects for our event on October 27th, and **we'd love to hear your suggestions!** Would your small group like to coordinate together? Are you already involved with an organization that needs volunteers? Do you know of a place that could us help? We want to hear about all of them! Projects can be inclusive of all ages and abilities, so all suggestions are welcome! Ideas can be submitted from **July 14-28**. You can email them to Jen Allen at wjvallen@icloud.com or place them in the envelope on the bulletin board outside of Missionwares. We need YOU to make this day a success! Contact Linda Jagiela at (267) 275-7582 or missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

