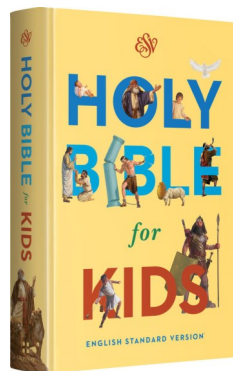


FAMILY MINISTRY

Fall Kickoff Sunday is Coming! Sunday, September 8th!



Bible Sunday for Third Graders

On Bible Sunday, September 8, we will present Bibles for children entering 3rd grade. If you'd like your child to receive a Bible, contact Holly Ascitutto at 856-235-1688, Ext. 116 or hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org with their name as it is to appear and if you will attend the Traditional or Contemporary service.

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

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

"Sing or ring" in one of our Choirs this year! Experience the magic of our music ministry.

Opportunities are available for ALL ages and abilities in our music ministry under the leadership of Director of Music Joel Krott and Bell Choir Director Kathy Gunsallus. Come try it this year! You know you want to. Choir rehearsals begin:

- **Bell Choir:** Tues. Sept. 10 (6:00 pm)
- **Choristers** (Grades 5-8): Wed. Sept. 11 (5:00 pm)
- **Adult Choir:** Thurs. Sept. 12 (7:30 pm)
- **Junior Choir** (Grades 2-4): Tues. Sept. 17 (4:00 pm)
- **Chapel Choir** (Grades 9-12): Tues. Sept. 17 (7:00 pm)
- **Primary Choir** (Grades K-1): Wed. Oct. 2 (4:00 pm)

Participate in Missions Collections!

Please see the clear bins outside of Missionwares for many ongoing Missions collections: (1) School Supplies for students at Haiti Outreach Ministries; (2) Entirely Black Shoes and black Sneakers for students at Haiti Outreach Ministries; (3) Diapers sizes 1 & 2 for babies at Hope Alive Clinic in Haiti; (4) Full sized toiletries for girls at House of Hope girls home in Haiti; (5) Travel sized toiletries for Feeding 5000; (6) Plastic grocery bags to make sleep mats for the homeless at Christian Caring Center; (7) used cell phones and lap top computers for Haiti Outreach Ministries (please drop computers and phones off at the church office).

Kids: Are You Interested in Acolyting?

Parents of any youth second grade or older whose son or daughter is 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.



First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
Moorestown, NJ 08057
www.fpcmoorestown.org
(856) 235-1688

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

Kelly LePenske
Pastoral Associate
klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

SUMMER WORSHIP

(summer hours end Sunday,
Sept. 1, Labor Day wk.)
- 9:00 am Traditional
- 10:30 am Contemporary

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

EDUCATION

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

**We will see you on
Sunday, September 8
for Fall Kickoff!
(see page 2)**

"Connections" is published weekly for Sunday worship and every two weeks in the summer. 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

August 11-25, 2019

GRACE NOTES / FPCM Ways of the Week August 11-25, 2019 (double issue)



#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.

FORGIVENESS is not an easy practice, but it is such a healthy and necessary one. When was the last time you sat down, took a few deep breaths, and asked God to reveal a source of hurt or bitterness in your life? Where do you need freedom or hope in your life?

When we're sick, we want freedom from painful symptoms, so we visit the doctor's office, hoping they'll prescribe a quick, short-term solution. But forgiveness does more than treat our symptoms; it goes straight to the root cause of our pain and heals us in deeper ways. Giving and receiving Christ's forgiveness is life-changing because it frees us from everything that gets in the way of our calling to LOVE. Gone are our exhausting days of bitterness, anger, entitlement and resentment. Now, finally, we can live for Christ instead of being consumed by an invisible disease.

Forgiveness doesn't prove who was right and who was wrong, nor does it prove that someone is more moral or religious than the next person. Rather, it is a bit like waking up in a jail cell of our own making and realizing that, all along, we've had the key to freedom in our pocket. Thanks be to God.
- Kelly LePenske



#7. KEEP THE UNITY, SAVOR DIVERSITY. Thank God that, like parts of the human body, we're not all the same. Be open to learn from others, regardless of their age, background, experience, or tenure with our church. We make better decisions and grow as people when we consider multiple perspectives. Listen with curiosity to others and consider how to use their ideas.

UNITY AND DIVERSITY are not opposites, but often they can feel like them. The easy way is for those who are similar to be unified and for those who are different to let their differences of opinion or lifestyle separate them.

We, though, are called to a harder yet more fruitful way. When we look to Keep the Unity and Savor Diversity, we begin to draw different viewpoints and people groups to the same table and into the same community. We are united by one faith in one Lord, empowered by one Spirit, and enlivened by one hope. Do not let our differences divide us, but savor a different viewpoint united under one Lord.
- Dan Wonneberger

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

Fall Kick-Off Sunday, September 8

Our 2019-2020 program year kicks off in grand style on Sunday, Sept. 8! **Save the date** for Fall Kick-Off Sunday; a time to reconnect after the summer and kick off our fall ministries. It's a wonderfully busy day for every age.

- **Regular Worship Schedule:** 8:30 am Traditional and 11:00 am Contemporary
- **Sunday School Kick-Off (9:45-10:45 am)**—Kids: Meet your new teachers
- **Adult Education** — Dive Deeper into the sermon series and learn Why Rest Matters
- **Teacher Commissioning** at both worship services
- **Bible Presentation** to 3rd Graders (see pg. 4), a gift to grow with and treasure
- **Front Yard Fellowship** — BBQ on the front lawn (12 noon). Bring a dish and lawn chairs.



New Locks Installed

The church has completed installation of new door locks on the glass lobby doors and the back staff lot door (sole entry doors to the building). During the week, the building doors will be **unlocked** from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each evening (if events are scheduled). Saturdays the building will be unlocked from 7:00 am-7:00 pm, and Sundays the building will be open 7:30 a.m. until after the last service.

For questions please contact Earl Gage in the church office at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 106 or egage@fpcmoorestown.org.



A Note from Your Stewardship Team

Church operations continue year-round, and your Stewardship Committee reminds you that the traditional drop in giving during the summer months greatly affects the health of our church as well as those who rely on our support. Thank you for your faithful generosity. Please consider taking advantage of [online giving](#) — a safe, secure automatic withdrawal. It's simple to sign up. No more writing checks or searching for offering envelopes! Contact Norm Vandergrift at (856) 235-1688, nvandergrift@fpcmoorestown.org.

Please SIGN IN on the worship attendance pages

**SAVE THE DATE:
2019 Ministry Fair
Sunday, September 15
Connect. Devote.
Serve. Worship.**

Undies Sundays ~ BOGO is Back!

The PW Missions' annual BUY ONE ~ GIVE ONE collection of kids' underwear, socks & PJ's will be underway **August 3rd-18th**. When you shop for your kids, please buy an extra package for a child in Camden. Seeds of Hope ministry will distribute these donations to families with a parent in prison and to others in need on August 19. You can participate in this as well. Look for the GREEN basket in the Commons lobby to drop off your gifts. Pencils are important, but new undies are essential! Many thanks. Contact Gayle Payne at dpayne4501@aol.com for more information.



Underway: Parking Lot Construction

In August, major reconstruction work began on all three church parking lots to make them structurally sound. The large parking lot will be under construction during **WEEKDAYS ONLY August 5-25**. This lot will be available for parking on all Sundays during the project. Resurfacing of the smaller lots located next to the Sanctuary and at the office entrance was scheduled for Friday, August 9 (weather permitting) and the office was closed to accommodate resurfacing these areas.

During construction, our smaller lots will be OPEN during the week to accommodate parking while the large lot is closed.

Thank you for your patience!

Front Yard Fellowship

TWO MORE opportunities remain for our summer Front Yard Fellowship—a free BBQ open to the church and community. This is an effort coordinated by one of our small groups. 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, August 20 ~ 6-8 pm
Sunday, Sept. 8 ~ Noon**

Bring a dish to share, lawn chair ... and friends!

Pastor Schedules

Pastor Spencer, who has returned from accompanying the Denmark tour, will be in the office Aug. 8-13 then on vacation Aug. 14-26. He will return to the office Tuesday, Aug. 27. On Aug. 18 we welcome guest preacher Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli. Kelly LePenske will be on vacation Aug. 5-19, and returns to the office Aug. 20. Kelly will preach on August 25. For pastoral care and concerns during these times, please contact the church office at (856) 235-1688 or [Jan Martin](mailto:JanMartin). We are grateful to Linda Vandergrift for handling pastoral care coverage August 14-19 when both pastors are away.

Summer Inquirers Class

Those interested in learning more about our church membership attended a two-part Inquirers Class **Aug. 10-11**. The group met with Session to provide their Statement of Faith. New members will be welcomed in September.

NEW: Devotional Guide for Ways 6-10

The next devotional guide in our book series illustrating the 25 Ways culture statements will be available **August 11**. Like the first guide for Ways 1-5, Volume 2 is a beautiful 5-week daily devotional guide, including related scriptures and illustrations for Ways 6-10. 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.

**Summer Worship hours
end Sunday, Sept. 1
(Labor Day weekend)**

Have You Tried ALPHA?

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome. A new series of dinner sessions begins with an introductory session **Wednesday, Sept. 4** at 6:00 p.m. in Room 3-4 and Room 6. See course descriptions and register for this small group at www.fpcmoorestown.org/alpha.



Dine & Donate for Haiti Mission Trip

**Sunday, August 11
[Bertucci's Italian Restaurant](#)
1220 Nixon Drive
Mount Laurel
(by Moorestown Mall)
11:30 a.m.—9:00 p.m.
Please bring the coupon in the August 11 prayer list or found on our eblast**

Donate to the Blessing Box

Our Blessing Box is in need of proteins: canned tuna, sausage, chicken, Spam, and peanut butter. The box is being used regularly and it is truly a blessing to those who have a need. You can put the food directly in the box or in the shopping cart located by Miller Commons.

See page 4 for a list of ongoing mission collections

Sunday School Teachers for All Ages Open

Join Hands with us and teach our children in Sunday School this year! Come and experience the joy of sharing God's love and His word with our youngest members. Lessons are all planned and the teaching is done in a team approach so you are never alone and do not have to be available every Sunday. To learn more contact Holly Ascitutto at 609-273-7465 or hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.

