

FAMILY MINISTRY

FOOD DRIVE: Remember to bring food to church by October 13 (see pg. 2)

Kingdom Kids & Crossing Zone (started October 2)

- ♦ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd): 4:45-5:45 pm
- ♦ Crossing Zone (4th-6th): 6:30-7:30 pm
- ♦ All invited to Family Dinner at 6:00 pm!



Chick Fil-A Dine and Donate

Support our Preschool!
Thursday, October 23
5:00-8:00 pm
Centerton Square Mall

Come to Youth Group

- ⇒ Flock (grades 7-8), **Wednesdays** 6:30-8:00 pm (started Sept. 18)
- ⇒ Wave (grades 9-12) **Sundays** 6:30-8:30 pm (started Sept. 22)
- ⇒ Open to the community, friends welcome!

High School Retreat

Registration is OPEN for the January 24-26, 2020 high school retreat; visit Events:
www.fpcmoorestown.org

Memory Verse

Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.” (Luke 6:38)

For Families and Children:
Holly Asciutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

Kids and Youth Groups Return

A new year of Youth Groups and Kids Groups has begun! Our groups look forward to another year of activities and growing as God's people. PLEASE SIGN UP on the Coming Events page at www.fpcmoorestown.org.

Gather Around the Dinner Table

You don't need to cook, you can join us for Family Dinner! On Wednesday nights from 6-7 pm starting **Oct. 2nd**, Family Dinner is back. This is a great time to be together with your family but also with your church family. We ask that you donate \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Please take a week or two this fall to help support this ministry with set up or clean up. Contact [Holly Asciutto](mailto:Holly.Asciutto) to volunteer. Thank you for clearing away your own areas in Miller Commons.



⇒ **October 16 Menu: Shepherd's Pie; Sausage, Peppers and Onions; Penne with Rose, Bread and Beverages**

Sing or Ring: Choir Rehearsals Underway for All Ages

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! Be a part of this intergenerational ministry here at First Presbyterian. Visit www.fpcmoorestown.org/choir. Open to members of the area community. Choir rehearsal dates:

- **Bell Choir:** Tuesdays 6:00 pm
- **Choristers** (Grades 5-8): Wednesdays 5:00 pm
- **Adult Choir:** Thursdays 7:30 pm

- **Junior Choir** (Grades 2-4): Tuesdays 4:00 pm
- **Chapel Choir** (Grades 9-12): Tuesdays 7:00 pm
- **Primary Choir** (Grades K-1): Wednesdays 4:00 pm

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

WORSHIP HOURS
- 8:30 am Traditional
- 11:00 am Contemporary

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

EDUCATION HOUR October 13, 2019

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
- Adult Sunday School:
Led by Kelly LePenske:
“Generous Living”
(Fellowship Hall)
- 3 C's (Lounge)

“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](mailto:church.office).



Connections



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

October 13-20, 2019

GRACE NOTES / FPCM Ways of the Week October 13-20, 2019

WELCOME
CHANGE

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.
- Mark 2: 22; Revelation 21:6, 2 Corinthians 5:17

LET'S BE HONEST. We hate change. I do. I used to listen to my favorite music from a website called Groove Shark. I loved it. I had it figured out and I could access all my favorite tunes. Then Groove Shark got into legal trouble with all the music artists on their sites. I got an email that coldly informed me that Groove Shark was no more because the Groove Shark guys were going to jail for a while. Bye-bye Groove Shark! Hello, Spotify. I didn't like this new music source simply because it wasn't Groove Shark.

Church people hate change: Don't mess with my worship times. Don't fool with my favorite hymns. And most of all, don't sit in my pew.

I'm grateful that this Way sits right in the middle of our Twenty-Five Ways because God loves change and I believe He's rubbing His hands in glee because He has a lot of changes in store for you and for us.

Let me offer three important guidelines to help us as God brings us change that I learned from the book, *Canoeing the Mountains* by Fuller Seminary's Tod Bolsinger.

First, some things must never change. “What are the key elements of our theology, tradition, ministry practices and organizational culture that must be maintained at all costs because to lose them would be to lose our identity?” Be careful as you think through the matters that Bolsinger declares must never change. There aren't many items on the list.

Second, what should be discarded? *What can we stop doing or let die so we can free resources and energy for new forms of ministry [and mission]?* Remember this: people [including you] don't resist change. They resist loss. With change and something new comes loss and letting go. Loss is what makes change hard.

Third, what needs to be tried here? What kinds of experiments should we attempt? Today, we're going to have to try and fail in order to grow and change. “What essential part of the church's identity and mission needs to be adapted to a new day, environment or opportunity? How can the church keep doing the things it is called to do, but in a way that resonates, connects, serves and challenges people who wouldn't otherwise pay it any attention?”

The promise of change is bound up in God's certain promise: Behold, I am making all things new!

Stuart Spencer

Oct. 20: New Consecration Sunday (9:30 am) & Celebration Brunch
⇒ **Did you turn in your RSVP card or [RSVP online?](#)**

Hope Alive Benefit

Please join us **Sat. October 12** at 7:00 pm as we raise much-needed funds for our "Hope Alive Mission and Friends." Hear the Bass Family with our own Martin and Christine Bass, as they sing and play a variety of Christian songs. Learn more at www.fpcmoorestown.org. Miller Commons



With Our Gratitude

Thank you for your generous contributions to our September 12th Fund. We have received \$28,000 to date! These gifts enable us to continue to move our church into the future.

- FPCM Investment Committee

Did you sign in on the attendance pads?

Today: Pastor Appreciation

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is **October 13th**. If you wish to share some kind words of appreciation with our Pastoral staff, there will be baskets located in the Commons Lobby and in the Narthex to receive cards and notes for Rev. Stuart Spencer and Pastoral Associate Kelly LePenske.

Dedication of Prayer Labyrinth October 13

After the 11:00 am service on October 13th, please join us outside at the beautiful new Prayer Labyrinth for a short **Dedication Ceremony honoring Pastor Dick Herman**. The ceremony will be followed by cake (from L&M Bakery!) as we celebrate the ministry of Rev. Dr. Herman and our current



First Presbyterian pastoral staff.

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

On **Sunday, Oct. 27**, FPC Moorestown will leave the building to be the hands and feet of Jesus in the community! Every member of our congregation (and guests!) will have an opportunity to serve others in the name of Christ. This day will feature opportunities to feed the hungry, serve the homeless, care for our environment, support mission partners, and truly live out the commandment of our Savior to serve "the least of these." We need YOU to make this day a success! [Register online](#) today or look for sign up sheets. We will begin with a brief worship at 9:30 a.m., and return for a potluck dinner about 4:00 pm to share photos of the day. Questions? Contact Jen Allen at wjvallen@icloud.com or Missions coordinator Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or the church at (856) 235-1688.

Sign up online!
Sign up at church too

Return Food Today for Food Drive

The Deacons have "joined hands" with the Children's Sunday School Classes to provide much needed food for St. Matthew's Ministerium Food Pantry and FPC's Food Pantry. Paper bags with a suggested food list were distributed Sunday, September 29 and in Sunday School classes Sunday, October 6. Please fill up a bag or two and return the food through **October 13** to the shopping cart in the Commons Lobby.

The church office is looking for a Friday morning desk volunteer. Interested? Call [Jan Martin](#) at (856) 235-1688, x133

Christmas Toys

I know that it's October but before you know it Christmas will be here. Please think of the disadvantaged children of Camden when you begin your holiday shopping and put something bright and new aside for them. We have a wonderful, caring congregation and over the years you have been very generous. Please help us again.

If you have any new toy(s) leave your donation at the church office with my name attached, or bring the item to my home 329 Springhouse Lane in Moorestown.

Gratefully,
Annette Emerson

Stewardship Series: "Giving Stories"

Our stewardship series "Giving Stories" features Stewardship Moments challenging each of us to listen to God's call. The series culminates on Oct. 20th with Consecration Sunday and a catered Celebration Brunch. Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the giver's need to give *for his or her own spiritual growth*. The focus is on living a generous Christ-centered life.

Brunch RSVP cards will be collected in worship on Oct. 6 and 13, and team members will contact those who have not yet responded. We want everyone to attend this Celebration! **NEW: [RSVP online too!](#)**

During a **combined 9:30 a.m.** service on October 20th, members will dedicate their weekly, monthly or annual financial commitments to the Lord's Work. Guest Leader **Rev. Katie Sundermeier** will preach and lead us through this time when members will fill out *2020 Estimate of Giving cards* in worship. If you are unable to attend, cards may be turned in ahead of time. Contact the church office.

If money were no object, what would you like to see our church do?
Dream Big!

Friday Nighters November 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Program: Arlington: Field of Honor. Discover how Arlington National Cemetery came to be and how it serves as the resting place for both the famous and obscure. Catered meal (\$10 per person) RSVP to Jane and Kim Murphy, 856-427-0618 by Oct. 28th

Dr. Steve Treat Returns

PLEASE JOIN US for a unique Marriage Workshop with Dr. Steven Treat on **Wednesday, October 30th**: "Connecting and Reconnecting in Your Marriage: Growing Closer, Growing in Intimacy."



Have Date Night at Family Dinner at 6:00 pm before the workshop!

Sign up online at Coming Events at www.fpcmoorestown.org or the sign up sheet in Commons Lobby. FREE.

Adult Education

— **3 C's Class** (Coffee, Conversation & Christ) meets at 9:45 a.m. in the Lounge. Join us as we dive into Scripture and apply its wisdom to our everyday lives. Teens and adults are welcome!

— **"Generous Living"** led by Kelly LePenske. What does it look like to respond to God's generosity and grace in our world today? Why does it matter? Join us as we redefine stewardship and generosity according to Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians. Fellowship Hall A

"Own Your Church"

After events at the church, each group is kindly asked to clean up the room(s) afterwards—straighten furniture, pick up stray garbage, turn off lights and AC and tidy the kitchen (dry and return serving dishes, take towels home to wash, and wipe down counters.) If you've made coffee, kindly clean the coffee maker. Please LABEL all food in the refrigerator or freezer and take leftovers home. Thanks!

Sign up for 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Please sign up for a designated time to pray for our church, our families, our communities Oct. 19-20 as we reflect on our stewardship focus for Consecration Sunday October 20 - *"What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"* Time: 6:00 am Sat. Oct. 19th to 6:00 am Oct. 20th. SIGN UP at the Welcome Desk to select a 30-min. time or easily [sign up online!](#) For questions reach out to the Prayer Committee.

West Jersey Symphony: Concert of '40s

Saturday, October 26, 7:00 pm
West Jersey Chamber Music Society heralds its 40th anniversary year with a blowout "Concert of '40s" featuring 40th compositions or Opus 40 by Haydn, Beethoven, Dvorak and Mozart. Tickets \$24, \$18 seniors and students; available online www.wjcms.org or at the door; children free. FPC Sanctuary

Leadership Dessert Sunday, Oct. 13 (7 pm)



Coming Sunday, November 3
Special Panel during Education Hour, visit with our missionaries

**October Session Meeting
October 22, 2019**