

FAMILY MINISTRY

Check out The Church Has Left the Building Oct. 27—great kid-friendly projects!

New Homework/Reading Rooms

PARENTS: Beginning Wednesday, Oct. 16th, we will provide homework/reading rooms for children who do not participate in Family Dinners; specifically for those children who would rather do homework, read etc. Per church policy we must have separate rooms for boys and girls since the areas will not be chaperoned. The boys will be able to utilize the Prayer Room, and the girls the Hayes Room. This will be from 6:00-6:30 pm only. If you are a parent of a child that will use these rooms and are present during Family Dinners we encourage you to check in on these spaces once in a while.

No Youth Group Tonight

Sunday, October 27 there will be no Youth Group because that morning FPC — instead of having a church service — is serving our community. This can be a great opportunity to serve as a family, or get some friends together to serve as a group. See link above.

High School Retreat

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

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

SAVE THE DATE: Family Advent Celebration

Watch for details for this special Thanksgiving weekend family activity. The event will be held **Saturday, November 30** in Fellowship Hall from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Advent begins Sunday, December 1.

Gather Around the Family Dinner Table

You don't need to cook, you can join us for Family Dinner! On Wednesday nights from 6-7 pm, take advantage of this great time to be together with your family and your church family. We ask that you donate \$5 per person or \$20 per family. Please help support this ministry with set up or clean up help. Contact [Holly Asciutto](mailto:HollyAsciutto) to volunteer. Thank you for clearing away your areas in Miller Commons.

October 30 Menu: Chicken Cacciatore, Penne with Bolognese, Penne with Alfredo, Carrots

Join a Choir This Year

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

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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 SPECIAL NOTE

There is NO Sunday School or Adult Education on **Sunday, October 27** due to The Church Has Left The Building activities — 9:30 a.m. brief Worship before we head out to serve.

On **Nov. 3** Adult Ed will be a Mission Panel for the Mission Fair (see page 3).

“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

Oct. 27-Nov. 3, 2019

GRACE NOTES / FPCM Ways of the Week October 27-November 3, 2019

SHOW
WHO YOU
REALLY
ARE

17. SHOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE. Our church is for “real” people. Bring your true self, including your joys, your sorrows, your fears, your strengths and your weaknesses. God loves you as you are. Don't hide your struggles, failures or problems.

CHANCES ARE YOU'VE HEARD the phrase before: “Church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints.” Some attribute this saying to St.

Augustine of Hippo, others to John Chrysostom, a great preacher in the early church during the late 300s. Either way, this phrase poses a question for the church throughout history, and for First Presbyterian Church today. Do we agree with this statement only in theory, or do our hands and hearts bear witness to God's love for all?

The professors, youth group leaders and mentors who transformed my life through discipleship each have different stories, yet there's a common denominator, or word, that connects them all—*imperfect*. Whether it was Carina (my high school Young Life leader), Michael (my first theology professor), or Dave (my Young Life boss in Los Angeles), they all taught me that the most important thing I can bring to Christ is my whole imperfect self. Not part of me, or the polished I've-got-it-all-together me, but ALL of me. My fears, my insecurities, my anger, my sorrow, the hurt I inflicted upon others. “Bring your whole self to me,” Jesus says. Then, and only then, can we discover what Christ has in store for everyone: transformation and healing, joy and hope, love and new life!

The first step in Alcoholics Anonymous is to admit your powerlessness, to own the truth that your life has become unmanageable and unhealthy. Isn't this what our call to confession is all about every Sunday morning in worship? To declare and accept that our ways are not God's ways, that we are, in fact, imperfect people? And here's the Good News: God LOVES imperfect people, and He loves partnering with them. Not in theory, but actually! St. Augustine says exactly this in *The City of God*. “God is always trying to give good things to us, but our hands are too full to receive them.”

It's time to set down the mask, empty your hands and heart of pretenses, and show who you really are. Bring your whole imperfect self to Jesus and to First Presbyterian Church. And remember Paul's words: “*But Jesus said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.*” (2 Cor. 12:9)

Kelly LePenske

TODAY: The Church Has Left the Building (rain or shine)

TODAY: "The Church Has Left the Building"

On **Sunday, Oct. 27**, FPC Moorestown will not be AT church, we will BE the church. Every member and guest will have an opportunity to serve others in the name of Christ. Choose from 24 projects to feed the hungry, serve the homeless, care for our environment, support mission partners, and truly be the hands and feet of Jesus. ALL AGES. [Register online](#) today or look for sign up sheets at church. Come in work clothes. We will begin with a brief worship at 9:30 a.m., and return for a spaghetti dinner about 4:00 pm to share photos of the day. **Come to whatever portion you can**—all are welcome! Questions? Contact Jen Allen at wjvallen@icloud.com or Missions coordinator Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or the church at (856) 235-1688.



Dr. Steve Treat Returns

It's Date Night! Please join us for a unique Marriage Workshop with Dr. Steven Treat on **Wed. October 30th**: "Connecting and Re-connecting 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 www.fpcmoorestown.org Coming Events or the sign up sheet in Commons Lobby. FREE.



November Lunch Bunch Thursday, November 7 Speaker: Linda Jagiela



**November 2, 2019 (2 am)
Don't be late for church!**

Give Thanks, Give Blood

Thanksgiving is the time for our American Red Cross Blood Drive, which will be held **Monday, Nov. 4** from 1-6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Contact Debbie Heller for an appointment at 856-273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net; walk-ins welcome! Give Thanks! Give Blood! To sign up online visit www.redcrossblood.org.

**Do your adult children
have a new address? Help
us update our records.**



A mission team will be commissioned on Sunday, November 3 and will be in Mexico Nov. 8-11.

Christmas Toy Drive

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

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

Devotional Guide, Vol. 4

Volume 4 in our series illustrating the 25 Ways is now available! This 5-week daily devotional guide created by Dan Wonneberger, includes scriptures and illustrations for Ways 16-20. Suggested donation \$10; proceeds support our prayer ministry. **Get yours in the Commons Lobby on Sundays, the church office, or text "\$10 pray" to 84321.**

If you already have an account you'll simply be charged. If you haven't used our online donations, you'll be guided through a simple process. The complete 5-book set is available too—suggested donation \$50.

THANK YOU for Your Generous Giving on Consecration Sunday

On October 20th, Consecration Sunday, FPC church members dedicated their 2020 *Estimate of Giving Cards*, to assist church leaders in preparing accurate budget projections. It was a spirit-filled day, featuring an inspiring sermon from Rev. Katie Sundermeier, and a delicious Celebration Brunch.

Cards will be mailed to those who were not in attendance and — NEW this year — are now [available online](#). Cards are also available at the Welcome Desk and in the church office. You may also simply email [Norman Vandergrift](mailto:Norman.Vandergrift@fpcmoorestown.org) with your 2020 pledge. We kindly ask that all Estimates be turned in by **November 15**. As of October 25, we have received 174 pledges totaling \$1,386,046. We're well on our way ...

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**.

Looking for Caregiver

Help support small group ministries by providing childcare for toddlers. Paid position, 2 hrs/wk. Wed. mornings from 9-11 a.m. at church. Contact Kelly LePenske klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org or call/text (206) 484-6758.



Sunday, November 3: Missions Fair

Missionaries from across the globe and locally will come to FPCM setting up displays to help us get to know their ministries. During the Education Hour through 1 pm, come meet and learn about the missionaries. At 9:45 a.m. a Question and Answer session will replace Adult Education. Continental breakfast and lunch provided.

MEET THE MISSIONARIES: On **Nov. 12th** at 7:00 pm a number of missionaries will be visiting with the Missions Committee. There will be no business meeting that evening so that we can hear the stories of the work these incredible individuals are doing in the world. All congregants are invited to attend. Please let us know so we can assign a room large enough!

"Own Your Church"

After events at the church, each group is kindly asked to clean up afterwards—straighten furniture, pick up stray items or food, turn off lights and tidy the kitchen (dry and return 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!

**Holy Communion
Moved to November 10**

Adult Ed Returns Nov. 10 (off Oct. 27; Nov. 3)

—Nov. 10 & 17: NEW: **Sanctified Sisters**. Don't miss this rich 2-week series on the history of women in the Protestant church, taught by Dr. Jenny Legath. Learn how the deaconess movement created hundreds of new institutions within Protestantism and created new roles for women within the church. Join us as we celebrate the release of Jenny's book, *Sanctified Sisters*, and explore our roots.

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

Sunday Altar Flowers

Now is the time to reserve Sunday flower donation dates for the rest of this year and for 2020. Vases are \$40 each and two vases are available each Sunday. Reservations are being taken now for next year. To reserve your special dates, contact Rumi Sinunu at rts319@gmail.com or (856) 266-4047. What better way to commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life.

Dr. Treat Tribute Dinner

Saturday, Nov. 9 (6-10 pm) at Union League of Philadelphia. www.SteveTreatTribute.org for tickets and information

**Coming: Deacon Sunday
November 17, 2019**