

FAMILY MINISTRY

We're having a Food Drive! 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!

First Communion October 6, both services

World Communion Sunday

Let's celebrate together as we welcome our fourth graders to the Lord's Supper as brothers and sisters

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 Ascitutto

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For Families and Youth:

Dan Wonneberger

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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

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.

Are You Hungry? Family Dinner on Wednesdays

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 [Dan Wonneberger](mailto:Dan.Wonneberger@fpcmoorestown.org) to volunteer. Thank you for clearing away your own areas in Miller Commons.



⇒ **October 9 Menu:** Roast Pork, Meatballs, Baked Penne, Roasted Potatoes & Green Beans, Bread, 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

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(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 6, 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@fpcmoorestown.org).



Connections



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

October 6-13, 2019

GRACE NOTES / FPCM Ways of the Week October 6-13, 2019



14. GROW FAITH. Take advantage of every chance you have to form your faith—through small groups, classes, and personal study. Be a disciple and look to learn from those who know more of the Bible and Christian life than you do, then look for opportunities to share what you've gained with someone else.

I STILL REMEMBER what Pastor Meyers said in 1979 when he invited me to join First Presbyterian Church --- "In the church we study and learn together." He said this to correct my misguided notion that the church is a place for "accomplished" Christians. That was the encouragement I needed as I had many questions to be answered about the Bible, Christianity and the Christian faith.

Way #14 encourages us to "take advantage of every chance you have to form your faith through small groups, classes, and personal study." Throughout the years, various small groups have helped me to learn who God is, what the Bible says, to grow in faith and live out what I learned. There is great value in small groups in addition to large group gatherings. Small groups help to build close friendships and a support system to minister to each other. They provide a safe place to share our experiences and needs as well as to pray freely for each other. As a result of regular meetings, people become accountable to each other, speak the truth, express care, and feel comfortable to participate in deeper discussions.

In small groups we are encouraged to grow spiritually, deepen our faith, develop our greater connection to the body of Christ, the Church, and to become his disciples to go out and "share what you've gained with someone else (Way #14)." In Jesus' early ministry he appointed twelve disciples to form a "small group," a group to build a special teacher-student relationship, so that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach the gospel. (Mark 3:13-14)

I encourage you to join one of the many small groups our church offers so you can find kindred spirits, meet your needs and grow in faith to become Christ's disciple. Sign ups are open on the church web site www.fpcmoorestown.org!

Rami Sinana

TODAY: World Communion Sunday / First Communion

World Communion Sunday

The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with our brothers and sisters around the world. This will also be the First Communion experience for some of our children (see pg 4).

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

Pastor Appreciation

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is **October 13th**. If you would like 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. Questions? Contact coordinator Jen Allen at wjvallen@icloud.com or Missions coordinator Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org or the church at (856) 235-1688.

Did you sign in on the attendance pads?

Deacons & Children's Sunday School 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" will be distributed Sunday, September 29 after the morning service and Sunday, October 6, in the Sunday School Classes. Please fill up a bag or two and return the food through **October 13** to the shopping cart in the Commons Lobby. *Deacon Helen Dominy & Children's Ministry Director Holly Asciutto*

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

With My Deepest Thanks

I thank this congregation for all of the kindness you showed by brother Steve while he was in Moorestown. He loved being at our church and the love of Jesus was so remarkable. The prayers that were constant made his heart glad and I will be forever grateful. Steve led a "Bible study" each day with his texts to many people and prayed with our Monday afternoon Bible Study, twice. The surgeon's hands were prayed for and the robot successfully removed the tumor! Andrew, my son, was there to witness the love of God's Kingdom!

Gratefully,
Debbie Heller

Stewardship Series: "Giving Stories"

Our three-week stewardship series "Giving Stories" began on Sept. 29 and 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 less on obligation and more 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 at First Presbyterian Church. Guest Leader and dear friend **Rev. Katie Sundermeier** will preach and lead us through this time when members will fill out *2020 Estimate of Giving cards* confidentially in worship.

If you are unable to attend, cards may be turned in ahead of time. Contact the church office for an Estimate of Giving card or to confirm your 2019 gift amount.

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



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) begins Sunday, October 6 at 9:45 a.m. Join us in the Lounge 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 any event at the church, each group is responsible for cleaning up the room 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. Thank you from the staff.

Sign up for 24-Hour Prayer Vigil

Our "River of Prayer" is widening and *constantly flowing!* Oct. 19-20 the Prayer Committee will hold our next "24-Hour Prayer Vigil" to provide members an opportunity to 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.

Sunday, October 13 Pastor Appreciation & Labyrinth Dedication

APNC Update

The APNC has been meeting every Thursday since February in our search for an Associate Pastor. We have reached out to our connectors, read a lot of resumes, and we are still in a period of discernment. Please continue to pray for us, and for the candidate that God has for us. If you have anything you want to share with us, we have a mailbox by the stairs.

Looking for Caregiver

Help support small group ministries by providing childcare for kids ages 4 and under. Paid position, 2 hrs/wk. Wed. mornings from 9-11 a.m. at church. Interested or know someone who may be? Contact Kelly LePenske klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org or call/text (206) 484-6758.