



⇒ No Sunday School, Adult Education on Sunday, Feb. 2

No Sunday School February 2

There will be NO children's Sunday School, middle school or Adult Education on **Sunday, Feb. 2** so that families may attend the farewell reception for Youth Director Dan Wonneberger. Members of the congregation and our youth are encouraged to bring cards or notes for Dan, Ashley and Addie with well wishes:

Sunday, February 2
9:45-10:45 a.m.
Fellowship Hall



- 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
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- Romans 8:1

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

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

2020-21 Registration OPEN for current and new preschool families

Registration for the 2020-21 school year is OPEN for families currently enrolled and new enrollees to the Step by Step family. Registration is first come, first served. Call Director Amy Delgado for more information or to take a tour. See page 2.

Preschool Registration NOW OPEN



Family Dinner Returns Wednesday, Jan. 29 (6-7 pm)
Miller Commons ~ \$5 per person/\$20 family please
MENU: Chicken Fingers, Chicken Marsala*, Sausage & Peppers, Mac & Cheese, Corn*

*gluten free

Way of the Week

5. ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT. Decide to trust that others are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge—it doesn't help.

First Presbyterian Church
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(856) 235-1688

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

Kelly LePenske
Director of
Congregational Ministries

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

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

EDUCATION HOUR
9:45-10:45 a.m.
Sunday, January 26

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: resumes in May
Middle School: 3rd Floor

Adult Education:
♦ 3 C's Class
♦ Building Blocks of Prayer (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

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Jan. 26-Feb. 2, 2020

GRACE NOTES / FPC Moorestown Way of the Week January 26-February 2, 2020



5. ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT. Decide to trust that others are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge—it doesn't help.

Read: 1 Peter 4:8; Galatians 5:15; Matthew 7:1

I honestly don't know if there is a Way more challenging for me than this one. I've thought long and hard about it and wrestled with the benefits and struggles of focusing on this call to assume positive intent. I must admit that it is not 'natural' for me... And I don't find the "judge not, so you won't be judged" a right motivator. For me, releasing a reflex impulse to assume negative intent is healed only by immersing myself in pondering Grace - the Grace that is Jesus Himself. It is God Who loves you and loves me to the saturation point where transformation can happen.

The New Covenant declares to us that loving God (and even our neighbor) is possible because **He FIRST loved us** (1 John 4:19). It is His unmerited, undeserved, unearned grace that pushes away the old performance-driven angst about getting it right - it is the finished work of Christ Jesus that softens and renews and transforms our minds and hearts. (Gal 3:14,26-27) For me it is not a bold resolution to do better or try harder or work at it longer - I couldn't do another day without Him. Yet, what a reward for daring to trust Him. When His love fills up your heart and mind, the old thinking begins to dissolve like dull stains.

Perhaps there are others like me who must begin by assuming positive intent of God and Christ and the Holy Spirit; that our heavenly Father and Savior and Counsellor are loving, honest and concerned for our well-being and for all of the church. It is through increasing confidence in the transforming power of God's love that I can care for others, to value their personalities, to embrace their ideas and to move forward together.

Blessings,

Gayle Payne

TODAY: Commissioning of Linda Jagiela and Sandy Newell on their mission trip to Kenya and Uganda (see pg. 2). Pick up a purple Prayer Guide to pray daily for them on their mission trip.

Seeking Elders, Deacons and Trustees

The Nominations Committee is currently seeking individuals to staff the three Boards of the church: Elders, Deacons and Trustees. How can you serve your church best? See nomination form on our web site and pray about where God may be calling you.

[Sign up online!](#)

Adult Education

- **January 12, 19 & 26:** *The Building Blocks of Prayer:* Dive into the Old and New Testament as we explore the power of prayer. Arlita Winston leads this 3-week class that connects the ancient prayers of the Israelites, prophets and Jesus to our contemporary lives. This class is a great introduction to "Prayer Through Jesus' Eyes," the 2020 Ken Peacock Memorial Lecture Series on Jan. 24-25 (page 2).

- **9:45 a.m.: 3 C's class** (Coffee, Conversation & Christ)

KPMLS Sees "Prayer Through Jesus' Eyes"

The Ken Peacock Memorial Lecture Series, in collaboration with the FPCM Prayer Team, offers a two-day seminar on Scripture based, Spirit motivated prayer combining the principles of Paul Miller's *A Praying Life* with "The Person of Jesus" study version of Love Walked Among Us. Pastor Keith Grant, an actor, corporate trainer, and *A Praying Life* trainer, has discovered a marriage of his teaching gifts and his passion for Jesus. Keith will also be our guest preacher on Sunday, Jan. 26.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Friday, January 24

Check-in 6:00 pm, Seminar 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 25

Event continues 8:30 a.m. – noon

FREE admission. Questions, contact the church at (856) 235-1688. www.fpcmoorestown.org—Events.

Preschool Registration

Registration for the 2020-21 school year is currently OPEN for families both currently enrolled and new enrollees to the Step by Step family. Registration is first come, first served and payment is required to secure a spot for the 2020-21 school year. You will be notified that your paperwork and payment has been received. We do our best to accommodate your first choice. If there are questions or your first choice is unavailable, Preschool Director Amy Delgado will contact you prior to depositing your registration. Otherwise, registration money is **non-refundable**. For questions contact Amy at adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org or visit www.fpcmoorestown.org/step-by-step-preschool.

**Session Meeting
Tuesday, January 28
7:00 p.m.**



Blanket Sunday Offering Jan. 26

[Blanket Sunday](#), sponsored by our Deacons and Church World Service, will be **Sunday, January 26**. Your contributions enable CWS to help families around the world shelter from the elements, recover from disasters and displacement, and help rebuild viable communities. Watch for special bulletin inserts or [give securely online](#).

Baby & Kids Items for Kenyan Friends

Linda Jagiela will be traveling with Urban Promise to Kenya to visit our missionaries on Feb. 1. Below is a list of items that the ministries have requested. Please consider donating by dropping off in Missionwares by Jan. 31:

Flattened soccer balls, chalk, little chalkboards for students to practice their letters, light learning-to-read books, Step into Reading books, Connect 4 games (they all LOVE this game) so we could use enough to give to at least 3 of the ministries, lollipops/candy, board games for elementary school children like Candyland, Chutes and Ladders, Trouble, UNO, Skip Bo, Phase 10, Yahtzee (learning games that teach problem-solving and math skills), small solar-powered flashlights, baby toys for a new baby care program, learning baby toys for 6-18 mos., solar bibles (we can purchase them for \$30 each from World mission), Hershey bars. Thank You!



Calling All Chili Lovers!

Wanna taste some amazing chili recipes! Come to TODAY's Chili Cook Off! Bring your appetite and tasting skills to see who has the best chili around. The kids can taste test and judge the Mac and Cheese! Something for everyone.

TODAY: Sunday, January 26th
Noon — 2:00 p.m.
Proceeds to benefit Mission Trips

We have over 20 chili chefs! Cost: \$5 to taste as many chilis as you would like and get 5 votes. Each additional vote is \$1.

Knitting Network

THANK YOU to all who donated to the Mitten Tree! Many hats and mittens were given to Urban Promise and Good Counsel. In 2019 we donated 180 handmade items, among them 11 prayer shawls, many mittens to local hospitals and institutions. Been away from knitting for a while? Come to our next meeting **February 1** in Room 2 at 10 am and we'll help you get back. Call Betsy Gildehaus with questions at 856-234-5414.

Coming: Lenten Study!

Our Lenten study this year will be the book "Not a Fan" by author Kyle Idleman. Look for sign-up sheets at church and online starting Feb. 9th. Small groups begin the week of Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26th) and run through Easter. **We need more small group leaders, especially during our Sunday school hour (9:45-10:45 AM). Please consider how God might be calling you to serve with your partner or a friend!** Contact [Kelly LePenske](#) at (856) 235-1688.

Best Wishes Dan & Ashley

On **Sunday, Feb. 2 from 9:45-10:45 a.m.**, we will have a reception to honor Dan Wonneberger, who has accepted a post as Student Ministry Director of Redeemer Church (ECO) in Snellville, GA. His last Sunday will be Feb. 2, when he will preach both services. Love gifts may be sent to the church office (ATTN: Norm Vandergrift) by cash or check. Checks should be made out to **First Presbyterian Church** and **MUST** have "Gift for Dan Wonneberger" on the memo line. *NOTE: This contribution will not be included as part of your giving to the church and is not tax-deductible. Checks are due to the office by 12 noon Friday, Jan. 31.*

You may also bring your gift on Feb. 2. Checks that day must be made out directly to Dan. There will also be a basket to receive cards and well wishes for the Wonnebergers (see page 4).

Annual Congregational Meeting & Lunch

Sunday, February 2, 2020

12:15 pm ~ Fellowship Hall

Light lunch provided by Deacons
The Annual Report will be available on Sunday, Jan. 26 to review before the meeting.

Church Center App

Download the free Church Center mobile app to check-in to FPCM events, find or join a group, give online, register for events and contact the church. Visit the app store today.



New Member Class

Interested in learning more about us? We want to meet you! Come to the Inquirers class, a 6-week series that began **Sunday, Jan. 19**. Classes are 9:45 a.m. Sunday mornings, and introduce various ministries at FPCM. Share and receive information on the meaning of membership in the Presbyterian Church. Those who desire to join our church will be welcomed during worship on March 8th. Call 856-235-1688.

February 6 Lunch Bunch

Step by Step Preschoolers'
A Special Valentine
Fellowship Hall ~ 12 noon

Friday Nighters Feb. 7

Friday Nighters return on Friday, February 7th for the new year. The program is "Charlie Zahm, Balladeer." Charlie Zahm makes a return visit to Friday Nighters. He is an accomplished and well known performer who presents familiar songs in his own melodic and traditional style. Appetizers, fruit and desserts will be served. RSVP by **Wednesday, February 5th** to Martha and Ken Eshelman by calling 856-234-7587. All are welcome and we hope you can attend. The group will meet at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Ash Wednesday

The Season of Lent begins with an Ash Wednesday worship service on Wednesday, Feb. 26. Our Special Guest will be Rev. Scott Buckley.

Leadership Retreat: Making Disciples (Ed Gross)

Saturday, February 29
9:00 am—Noon

Elders, Deacons, Trustees, College of Elders and Deacons (COED), Staff