

FAMILY MINISTRY



Wednesday, April 1: No Kids Events due to the Rummage Sale (no fooling)

Children's Easter Celebration

The Children's Easter Celebration is coming **Saturday, April 4** (10:30-11:30 am). Weather permitting, we will be outside. Celebrate the joy of Easter with crafts, fun and of course, Easter Eggs! There is no charge; canned food for the food pantry as an entrance will be welcomed. Rain or shine. Don't forget your basket!

*We welcome candy donations of individually wrapped items that are peanut free and can fit within a plastic Easter egg. Please drop off candy donations to the church office **BY MARCH 7th**!*



Fish Banks

During Lent, fish-shaped boxes will be distributed to children in Sunday School. On Palm Sunday, it is the tradition at First Presbyterian Church to receive the One Great Hour of Sharing offering (the fish boxes). A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing allows us to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. Children can bring the boxes with them on Palm Sunday (April 5) to be received during the Children's Moment in both services.



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

Sermon Series Memory Verse

"Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it."
- Mark 8: 34, 35

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

For Families and Youth:
Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 (cell/text)
dfauvell@fpcmoorestown.org

NEW: Collecting School Supplies for VBS Friends

We are collecting school supplies and art supplies for our friends Thoko and Kimmie from Roar VBS. Thoko and Kimmie ran the missions component of our Vacation Bible School and Kimmie had many fans in our VBS this year. Will you please help Ishmael, Thoko, and Kimmie as they head back to Malawi and begin their new ministry called Love Driven Ministries by giving them a head start with supplies for the kids they will serve? We will be collecting: Pencils (colored and #2), Pencil sharpeners (manual only); Markers; Crayons; Notebooks (composition and art); Gel pens; Construction paper; Erasers. Learn about Love Driven at <https://lovedrivenministries.org/>. Please have all donations at the church by **March 15th** at the latest.



Family Dinner Menu Wednesday, March 4 (6-7 pm)
Miller Commons ~ \$5 per person/\$20 family please; All are welcome!
Meat Loaf, Chicken Penne Alfredo, Italian Mashed*, Mac and Cheese, Green Beans*

*gluten free



Way of the Week

10. JOIN HANDS. Work as a team. Collaborate with each other, our professional staff, our lay leaders, and our congregants to find the best solutions. Collaboration lightens the load, generates better ideas than individuals working alone, and unleashes the gifts God has given us all.

Read: Ecclesiastes 4: 9; Galatians 6: 2,3; Proverbs 27: 17

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

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

EDUCATION HOUR
9:45-10:45 a.m.
Sunday, March 1

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:
4 Lent Book Studies (see
Commons Lobby to sign
up, see page 2)

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every two weeks in the
summer. Please submit infor-
mation **by noon Tuesdays** to:
Editor Jan Martin
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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

March 1-8, 2020

Way of the Week

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GRACE NOTES (March 1-8, 2020)

You're on a basketball court. You look to the other end of the court and there stands the starting five players of a professional basketball team. Let's make the team the Milwaukee Bucks. The five men facing you stand 6' 11", 6' 11", 6' 7", 6' 3" and 6'. These five and the next four men off the bench are considered the finest defensive team in the NBA. Here's your assignment: try to score a basket against this team. Oh, by the way, you're on your own against the Milwaukee Bucks. It's one against five. Good luck!

Our Way of the Week for this week provides us with the secret to overcoming impossible odds. Join hands. Work as a team. That's what collaboration means. Teamwork lightens the load and gives you a way better shot at success. With every person who walks on the court with you, the better your chances of scoring against the Bucks. Alone, you have no shot.

Most of us are facing NBA-sized challenges in our lives: an addiction, marital stress, discouragement, and fear are all 6'11" or taller. Together, as a church, we're facing some big tasks too. Concerning questions like, how can we become a congregation of disciples or how can we grow young, are all tall tests too. We'd better find hands to join.

To help us, Session endorsed three statements at its January 2020 meeting. These statements set forth our important game plan and why we're in the game in the first place. I encourage you to join hands around these crucial statements. They are:

VISION STATEMENT

We aspire to be beacons of God's love and truth, growing together in faith and relationship with Jesus Christ.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to: · Worship God faithfully · Connect Spiritually · Serve Christ locally and globally.

WHY STATEMENT

We follow the Great Commandment: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind ... [and] you shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:37, 39 NRSV)

FPC Moorestown: Join hands!

Stuart Spencer, Pastor

April Couples Retreat "Marriage and Discipleship" April 17-19, 2020

Enjoy a beautiful, nurturing weekend away at the Inn of Cape May April 17-19, hosted by Stuart and Leslie Spencer. Facilitators will be Revs. Tony and Katie Sundermeier. [Register online](#) on the church website or pick up a brochure. Cost is \$430 per couple; \$100 deposit due by March 12. Cost includes two nights lodging, meals and workshops at FPC of Cape May. REGISTRATION OPEN.

Holy Week Schedule

- ◆ **April 5:** Palm Sunday (no Sunday School, Lent Groups meet)
- ◆ **April 9:** Maundy Thursday (7:30 pm, Miller Commons)
- ◆ **April 10:** Good Friday Tenebrae (7:30 pm, Sanctuary)
- ◆ **April 12:** Easter Worship
6:30 a.m. Sunrise
8:30 a.m. Traditional
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Traditional

Way Cool Jazz Vespers

NEW TO OUR Lenten programming this year will be the smooth sound of Jazz Vespers on **Saturday, March 14** at 5:00 p.m. An improvisational, inspirational, and informal evening worship service that features jazz musicians, this is an excellent opportunity to gather family, friends & neighbors! Bring a dish for the pot luck reception afterwards. Guest preacher is Rev. Ruth Faith Santana-Grace, Executive Presbyterian of the Philadelphia Presbytery.

Spring Prayer Retreat

June 16-19

Holy Cross Monastery
West Park, New York

"Praying the Lord's Prayer"

Learn more/register at www.fpcmoorestown.org

Deacons March Food Drive

The Deacons are kicking off the month of March with a Food Drive to provide much needed food for the Ministerium Food Pantry at St. Matthew's. Paper Bags and a suggested food item list will be distributed at church after both services on **March 1**. All food can be dropped off in the shopping cart located in the Commons Lobby by **March 15**. Thank you for your support!

Service Pledge Sunday

During both services on **Sunday, February 23**, members completed their Service Pledge Form, indicating ways in which they wish to connect and serve this year. Add something new or continue serving in an area that is meaningful to you. If you haven't filled out yours, look for an [online form](#) to complete at home or pick up a Service Pledge from the office.



March Lunch Bunch Thursday, March 5 12 Noon Corned Beef & Cabbage Speaker: Stuart O'Spencer

Friday Nighters March 6

Please join Friday Nighters on **Friday, March 6th** for a pot luck dinner at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. The program is "Hollywood Musicals" presented by Richard Barrios, an author of several books about movies who holds degrees in cinema studies, music history and literature. His new book is *Must See Musicals*. No charge -- just a dish to pass. Please RSVP no later than **Wed. March 4th** to Marian and Jim Hartshorne at 856-235-5442.

New Members Welcomed March 8 both services

Tag the church in Facebook posts from FPC activities; Share the moments ...

Sign Ups OPEN: Lenten Study

SIGN-UPS ARE OPEN THROUGH MARCH 1 at church and [online](#) for our Lenten Study "Not a Fan" by Kyle Idleman. *Not A Fan* is all about discipleship and challenges us to get honest about our relationship with Christ. Are we fans of Jesus or committed followers? What's the difference and why does it matter? It's a straight-forward read for all stages of faith, yet it's dense with stories from Scripture and thought-provoking questions. Small groups begin the week of Ash Wednesday (Feb. 26th) and run through Easter. Suggested donation \$10 (includes a book AND daily devotional). For questions see our [website](#) or contact [Kelly LePenske](#) or [Alison Mackey](#) at (856) 235-1688.



Order Easter Flowers

Orders for Easter Flowers will be taken **March 15, 22 and 29** to decorate our worship spaces with the symbol of renewal. Order forms will be available in *Connections* and on the church website www.fpcmoorestown.org. Flowers are \$13 each and colorful, assorted spring varieties. For questions contact [Rachel Scarborough](#) in the office at 856-235-1688, Ext. 124.

Facility Facelift

Last week a professional crew was at work painting the interior ceiling and walls of the sanctuary. Our Property crew of Ken Wehn, Steve Margerum and Steve Cashmer has been painting the Narthex and David Room to freshen yards of worn trim and doors. After painting is complete we will have new carpet installed in the hallways from the office to the sanctuary, Narthex and pulpit replacing the well-worn carpet. Exciting improvements are underway!

Did you lose your car keys? We have some in the office

Church Center App

Download the free "Church Center" mobile app to check-in to FPC Moorestown events, find or join a group, give online, register for events and contact the church. Visit your App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android) for the Church Center app and get connected.

How can we pray for you today? Fill out a Prayer Request at either service and put in the offering plate

103rd Rummage Sale

Save those gently used holiday decorations, household goods, sporting goods, clothing, linens and kitchen items for the 103rd Rummage Sale **April 1-2**. Bargains galore await the savvy buyer! Proceeds support the missions of the Presbyterian Women. Volunteers are needed for throughout the week; drop off begins **Sunday, March 29**.

Next Knitting Network: Mar. 7, Room 8. All welcome!

Per Capita Giving 2020

Thank you for your contributions to the Per Capita drive. As Presbyterians, we are a *connectional church*. This assessment is a "per member" contribution of **\$38.75 per member** that each church pays annually to the larger church. This amount includes funding for the General Assembly, Synod and West Jersey Presbytery. Congregation members are kindly asked to help provide the \$38.75 for themselves and/or their member children (if able). Or you may submit an ["opt out" request](#) if you do NOT wish to pay. Responses and support are appreciated by February 29.

- Stewardship Team

LENT
Pray + Fast + Give

Thanks for wearing your
nametag and
greeting newcomers

PW Birthday Offering

PW Circle Members and Friends: The Birthday offering will be collected in Circles during the month of March. Traditionally, an amount is given commensurate with one's birthday, ranging from 10 cents to one dollar per year. (Shy ladies may donate any amount). If you miss the meeting or do not belong to a Circle, please send your check to the office with "PW Birthday Offering" on the memo line. A list of 2020 recipients is on the PW bulletin board. Questions? Contact Susan Masiko at 856-630-3253 or susan.masiko@comcast.net.

Alpha Provides Opportunity to Explore Your Faith

Who is Jesus? Why and how should I read the Bible? Who is the Holy Spirit? Explore questions like these at ALPHA, a 10-week/14 Lesson course open to the community. Sessions are held on Wednesday evenings and begin with a dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by a DVD video at 6:45 pm, and small group discussion. The Spring series begins **April 15** and runs through June, including a Holy Spirit Weekend retreat held at the church. Check out the Alpha page at www.fpcmoorestown.org (Events) or see leader Jim Cole (jamescole7@comcast.net).

Preschool Registration

Registration for the 2020-21 school year is currently OPEN. Registration is first come, first served and payment is required to secure a spot for the 2020-21 school year. For questions contact Director Amy at adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org or visit www.fpcmoorestown.org/step-by-step-preschool.