First Presbyterian Church 101 Bridgeboro Road Moorestown, NJ 08057 <u>fpcmoorestown.org</u> 856.235.1688

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

Kelly LePenske Director of Congregational Ministries klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

Connect. Devote. Serve. Worship.

#### COVID-19 Advisory

# The church campus is CLOSED.

Join us from the safety of your home for a live stream worship service Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.** This blended service streams live from the sanctuary and participants observe strict physical distancing. Log on from computer, phone or tablet to <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org</u> or <u>YouTube</u> or <u>Facebook</u> (see page 2). The service is also posted later in the week to our website.

"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, Connections and upcoming events? If not, contact the church office.



# Connections FP



#### First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

# Aug. 23-Sept. 6, 2020

# Way of the Week 10 (Aug. 23-30)

**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.



- Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. (Ecclesiastes 4: 9)
- Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important. (Galatians 6: 2, 3)
- As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend. (Proverbs 27: 17)

**Ideas for Action:** Is there some task you're doing at church that you could invite someone to share with you? Think of someone from our church who can help you sort out a challenge or problem you're facing.

Watch the Way of the Week 10 Video from Jan Martin

# Way of the Week | | (Aug. 30-Sept. 6)

**11. MAKE OTHERS AT HOME HERE.** Warmly welcome newcomers and visitors. Offer your name with a smile. Reach out and greet the person you don't know after worship, during Coffee Hour, in Youth Group or Sunday school. Show a genuine interest in others.



- Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15: 7)
- Welcome her in the Lord as one who is worthy of honor among God's people. Help her in whatever she needs, for she has been helpful to many, and especially to me. (Rom. 16: 2)

**Ideas for Action:** Look for someone you don't know very well. Invite that person for coffee, a walk or a meal and get to know them. Keep your eyes peeled for the guest or visitor at our church and offer your name and a smile of welcome. Pave the way for new friendships wherever you are.

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# Outdoor Worship Begins August 30 (8:30 a.m.)

Starting August 30th, we'll reunite for outdoor worship on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (weather permitting). All are welcome! Worship will be held in the courtyard facing Bridgeboro Road, at the foot of the steps outside Miller Commons Lobby. Worship will last about 30-35 minutes and include live music, prayer and a sermon. Please wear a mask, bring your own chair, and practice physical distancing. Restrooms and the church building will remain CLOSED.

Kindly arrive a few minutes early to allow for entry protocols. All participants must register. See the REGISTER tab on the <u>Events</u> page on our website to register. Before arriving, all households must complete two forms. This can easily be done ONLINE.

# Sept. 13: Fall Kickoff and Ministry Fair

We will kickoff our program year with a combined 9:30 a.m. worship on Sept. 13 on the sanctuary steps. Bring your own chair or blanket, and revel in a safe way to be together yet apart. Masks and pre-registration required. There will be no 8:30 a.m. worship that morning.

After worship, explore opportunities to *Connect. Devote. Serve. Worship* at an abbreviated Ministry Fair. This year due to limitations, several tables will be set up outside in the courtyard between the Commons Lobby and the Sanctuary allowing for safe distancing. For questions please contact Kelly LePenske at 856-235-1688, x101; klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org.

Fall Kickoff 9:30 a.m. (one service) Worship on the Lawn

#### Happy 132nd Birthday

In honor of the church's celebration of its founding on September 12, 1888, members are encouraged to donate to the future of FPC Moorestown by giving to the September 12 endowment fund. The fund is invested to earn income which helps to support the needs of our church. Look for a letter from the pastor and special opportunity to support this legacy.

#### Prayer Team Zoom

The FPC Moorestown Prayer Team invites you to pray with them through Zoom. Join others at one of the Prayer Times by clicking the **REGISTER** button on the FPC website (Events) to complete a Meeting ID request. A member of the Prayer Team will email you a Zoom Meeting ID link and password. Would you like to pray with others at a time/day not listed? TEXT the Prayer Chain Support number, 609-923-4135 or make a note in the comments box on the **REGISTER** form.

#### **Looking for Audio Visual Volunteers**

Our Audio Visual Team is looking for several volunteers aged high school or older to learn our new multi-camera system and audio for the Sunday morning live stream worship, which currently broadcasts from the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

We will train you on this exciting new technology; vMix software, camera operation and audio. You would serve in a rotation and therefore be needed every few weeks or so.

Please contact Steve Drzaszcz (pronounced Dr-AHsh) at <u>steve@gotsteve.com</u> or Hank Heidler at <u>hrheidler@comcast.net</u> if you're interested.

#### Welcome Dr. Thomas Kort

We warmly welcome The Rev. Dr. J. Thomas Kort to the pulpit on Sept. 6 to our 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services. After 42 years in ministry as a senior pastor, Rev. Dr. Kort retired in 2015 – for two weeks – before accepting the invitation of his alma mater Princeton Seminary to the position of Associate Vice President for Advancement, where he engages with alums and congregations.

He graduated from Slippery Rock State University in PA, and pursued graduate studies in Counseling at the University of Pittsburgh before being called to the seminary. A gifted minister, Dr. Kort served congregations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and North Carolina for 42 years as a senior pastor.

# Moment for Mission (Zoom)

Join us on Monday, Aug. 31 at 7:00 p.m. to hear our missionaries, J & S, discuss their work in North Africa. These long-time FPC Moorestown missionaries, who have lived in our mission house while on furlough, will bring you up to date on what is happening in their mission work and in their lives as well. Our ambassadors, J & S, share the truth and love of Jesus Christ among the unreached people in North Africa.

#### To participate in the call:

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 841 2519 0742 Passcode: 5FAECm

#### Financial Statements Available

REMINDER: Copies of giving statements are available at any time by contacting Norman Vandergrift at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 112 or <u>nvandergrift@fpcmoorestown.org.</u>

Thank you for remaining current with your pledged giving. Year-end statements are mailed in January.

#### **Giving Electronically**

Please consider taking advantage of <u>online giving</u> — a safe, secure automatic withdrawal. It's simple to sign up. No more writing checks or searching for offering envelopes! Set up e-giving for one-time and recurring gifts to the church, and give right from your phone with the <u>Church Center app</u>. The church never sees your bank information. Need help getting started? Contact <u>Norm Vandergrift</u> at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 112.

# Alpha Class Set to Begin Sept. 9 via Zoom

A new series of Wednesday evening sessions begins on September 9 and will be held via Zoom. Alpha is an 11-week series exploring the Christian faith that is open to the congregation and community at large. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Newcomers are encouraged. To register please contact leader Jim <u>Cole</u> at (856) 235-4012 or jamescole7@comcast.net.

# Fall Gathering by PW featuring Pam Main Monday, Sept. 21 7:00 pm on Zoom

#### **Book Club**

Want to get started on the next Book Club book? For September, the Book Club will be discussing "Dinner at Six" by Helen Hudson. The Book Club will meet on September 21 at 6:00 pm via Zoom.

#### We Give to the Lord

It's Coming! Save the Date for Sunday, October 18 when our church family celebrates the joy of living a generous Christ-centered life with our annual stewardship campaign Consecration Sunday. This year we will be TOGETHER yet apart. We will be unable to hold our Celebration Brunch, and look forward to next year. Estimate of Giving cards will be mailed to all members so that households may prayerfully (and safely) indicate their weekly, monthly or annual financial commitments to the Lord's Work. We will all be together for ONE 9:30 a.m. live stream service. Stay tuned for MORE details!

#### Videos: Round 4 Ways

Each week we are featuring an individual presenting the Way of the Week, sharing a video of his or her thoughts and a personal illustration about that fundamental. Videos should be 2-3 minutes and will be posted to our YouTube channel and linked to bulletins and *Connections*. **If you'd like to provide one, please do!** Contact Jan Martin in the church office at (856) 235-1688, x133 and select your favorite Way. Children AND adults encouraged.

#### Worship Live Stream

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning
- 7:00 p.m. Thursday evening Prayer Service

Log on from your computer, smartphone or tablet:

- 1. www.fpcmoorestown.org
- 2. <u>www.youtube.com</u>
- 3. Our Facebook page





# We love you. Be happy! We're planning FUN things for you ...!



## Youth Ministry

Pastor Stuart is pleased to announce that Interim Youth Director <u>Dave Fauvell</u>, who moved into the position with the departure of Dan Wonneberger, will be staying on in that capacity through the fall. We are grateful to Dave, who teaches Photography at



Moorestown High School, for the creative, virtual programming he has undertaken with our middle school and high school youth. This fall will look different and staff is exploring healthy options for in-person meetings, virtual gatherings and possibly CREDO confirmation. Stay tuned.

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

Always be joyful. Keep on praying. No matter what happens, always be thankful, for this is God's will for you. - I Thessalonians 5: 16-18 For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, ×116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

# Family Series: "Find Your Slow Summer"

As the last few weeks of summer arrive, our children's programming harnesses this sunny, carefree time with a new weekly series: *"Find Your Slow Summer."* Like our earlier series *Guide to the Most Okayest Summer Ever*, this series comes from saltproject. We love these series because they focus on intentionally stopping and noticing the blessings we already have around us. They do not require any purchasing of materials or even unusual props, just mostly



things God has already placed in our lives to enjoy — especially each other. Please reach out to <u>Holly Asciutto</u> or <u>Rachel Scarborough</u> with any questions. Kick off your shoes and dive in! **Check out the Friday eblast for each week's fun.** 



# Would you like to be a part of a Parent Prayer Group?

Please let Director of Children's Ministries Holly Asciutto know if you would be interested in joining a virtual Parent Prayer focus group that will center on praying for our children this coming school year. Contact Holly at: <u>hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org</u> or (856) 235-1688, Ext. 116.