

FAMILY MINISTRY



Enjoy a safe summer! Come see us at VBS!

VBS Moves to August 10-14

In an effort to provide a safe, in person, Vacation Bible School for our children we have moved VBS a few weeks later to **August 10-14**. We're hoping this will allow us to deliver a modified VBS with the necessary precautions in place at that time. With each day bringing new information and evolving guidelines, we are prayerfully hopeful and working hard towards a spiritually meaningful program.



Wednesday Family Activity

Dear Families,
We are taking a break from our regular format and going to work through a summer activity guide called "**Great and Small**," *Guide to the Most Okayest Summer Ever* written by the saltproject.org. As you can tell by the title, there is no pressure. It is laid back with several activities to try as a family each week if you choose. I pray you take this time to rest and connect deeper with each other and God our creator!
Love, Holly

[Read this week's complete activity here ...](#)

Sermon Series Memory Verse

"For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." (Galatians 5: 1, NRSV)

- Sermon Series July 5: Freedom is Yours to Keep
- Sermon Series July 12-Aug. 30: Walking the JT (Jesus Trail)

For Families and Children:

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For Families and Youth:

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Middle School and High School Youth Groups Wrap up a Year Unlike Any Other

FPC youth groups recently wrapped up the year, and what a year it has been. The students have been through a lot of change with Dan Wonneberger leaving and now COVID. Through it all I've been impressed by our students' willingness to dive in and grateful that God loves an eager heart. When COVID hit we transitioned to Zoom meetings.

The **high schoolers** worked through a series of hard topics that make faith hard with the intent of encouraging and bolstering their faith in a safe space to express doubts. The **middle schoolers** chose to talk about dating relationships and how to live out your faith while exploring a big part of growing up. The two youth groups were always filled with great conversation that challenged both myself and the students.

At our last Zoom group I asked the kids three questions:

1. What is your favorite memory from this year?
2. What is a faith highlight you've had?
3. What are you looking forward to in the coming year?

My goal was to leave the kids with some hope and encouragement, but whoa, did they leave me hopeful. I could just sit back and listen to these kids share so much hope and faith, it was an amazing blessing!

Dave Fauvell, Interim Youth Director



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**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 www.fpcmoorestown.org or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#) (see page 3). 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
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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



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

June 28-July 12, 2020

Way of the Week 2 (June 28-July 5)

2. SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE. Speak honestly and directly in a way that clearly reflects love and support for one another. Be courageous enough to say what needs to be said, even when it's difficult. Address issues directly with those who are involved or affected; speak to, not about, others.



- ♦ Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. (Ephesians 4: 29)
- ♦ Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior. (Ephesians 4: 31)
- ♦ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. (Ephesians 4: 15)

Ideas for Action: Is there a difficult conversation you've been delaying? Is there someone you've been talking about instead of being direct? Pray for courage and grace to have the conversation, in person, if possible. [Watch the Way of the Week Video ...](#)

Way of the Week 3 (July 5-12)

3. LISTEN GENEROUSLY. Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand.



- ♦ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. (James 1: 19, 20)
- ♦ Spouting off before listening to the facts is both shameful and foolish. (Proverbs 18: 13)
- ♦ Fools think their own way is right, but the wise listen to others. (Proverbs 12:15)

Ideas for Action: Put aside phones and laptops. Turn off the TV or computer and face someone you love. Focus on what the other is saying; not on what you want to say. Be careful that you're not interrupting because you're not listening to them.

[Watch the Way of the Week video ...](#)

Videos: Round 4 Ways

Each week we hope to feature 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 and select your favorite Way. Children AND adults encouraged.

Book Club July 20 (Zoom)

The third book in our Book Club is *The Promise of a Pencil* by Adam Braun. The book chronicles how Braun left a prestigious position in the financial world to find his calling, and has since built 250 schools. A riveting best seller. Log on to Zoom for a 6:00 pm event.

Zoom Meeting ID and Password:
Meeting ID: 836 9588 8226
Password: 9FqaKf

NOW: [See all our upcoming books!](#)

Spring Gathering via Zoom

More than 65 people gathered via Zoom on Monday, June 22 for the Spring Gathering Presented by Presbyterian Women. Keynote speaker Mindy Holman, CEO of Holman Enterprises, presented a PowerPoint on *Family First: Keeping the Family in the Family Business*. Ask anyone who was on the call about 'stamps,' the rule that one CAN'T work for the family business right away, and Holman's employee-focused Purpose for its company.



Home Communion Sunday, July 5

Joys and Concerns

Email prayer requests, joys and concerns to Pastor Stuart Spencer by **Wednesday 9:00 a.m. at sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org** to be included in the Thursday Evening Prayer Service.

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 with 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.

Summer Prayer Walks

What? Prayer Walk for our families, neighborhoods, communities, churches, businesses, schools, government.

Why? Pray for relationships, equity, prosperity, salvation, God's help and peace ... and revival -- turning to Him in our needs, with praise/gratitude

When? Sat. July 25 and Sat. Aug. 22 – 9 am gathering; walk or drive (NOTE: June 27 Prayer Walk canceled due to the Moorestown Prayer Vigil)

Where? Each person/pair/family chooses their own route: their neighborhood, shopping/business district, the schools, the government buildings, churches. Meet at our Prayer Labyrinth at 9 am

How? On foot or if preferred via car/bike/other

[See information on our website](#)

Session Authors Statement on Racial Injustice

At its stated meeting on June 23, 2020, Session approved, by a majority vote, the following resolution: [A Response to Racial Injustice from the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown](#) (see our website events page). This statement concluded nearly two weeks of conversation, prayer, writing, and debate among the members of Session over the course of two meetings. The tragic killing of George Floyd at the hands of the authorities and other similar heart-rending deaths have brought forth a moment for our nation. A moment like this calls for both a response and leadership, as we seek to be instruments of God's peace and agents of His reconciliation.



Task Forces Continue to Study Reopening Concerns

Task forces appointed by Session and the Long Range Planning team continue to gather information, study, discuss recommendations and explore the multi-faceted impact of reopening. Areas of emphasis include health and safety, logistics, Sunday events, small groups, staff and outside building usage. Administration is following directives from New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy. No date has been determined for a reopening of worship or activities.

Contest

THANK YOU to everyone who submitted photos for the Deacons photo/door decorating contest. There were some outstanding submissions showing ways to spread joy and encourage others to *Rejoice Always*. See our website event page for our winners' photos. Congratulations to our winners and all participants:

1. Nancy Meyers
2. Sarah Rotter
3. Charles Plymale



New Officers Installed

On Thursday, June 25 in an outside ceremony, incoming officers for Session (Elders), Deacons and Trustees were ordained and installed. In masks and keeping safe distances, the group answered the questions put before them, and Pastor Stuart, Clerk of Session Ann McBride and Nominations chair Gil Warren lay hands on the new officers' shoulders to silently pray for them. Officers begin July 1.

Elders (Session)

Gary Bender, Nancy Chumney, Pam Engle, Kevin Fauvell, Gayle Payne, Dave Rebuck

Deacons

Mike Hock, Karen Hynoski, Caroline Joyce, Jeff Mason, Mike McNeil, Susan Shaffer, Vicki Terry, Bobbi Voglesong

Trustees

Jeff Legath, Frank Manion (2-year term), Patrick McIlroy, Bill Mueller, Mike Ramage



Focus: Discipleship

The Prayer Committee, led by chair [Joyce Peacock](#), is developing a plan to address elements of the Discovery Bible Study program into our discipleship strategy. The team is creating Prayer Points and reaching out to DBS leaders. You may view the discipleship trainings on our website Events page.

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. www.youtube.com
3. [Our Facebook page](#)

Pentecost Donations

Our Pentecost offering totaled \$15,585! As approved by Session, we have mailed checks to the following organizations:

- ◆ Camden Forward School
- ◆ Camden Rescue Mission
- ◆ Dawn's Place
- ◆ Interfaith Hospitality Network
- ◆ MEND
- ◆ Urban Promise

Summer "Connections"

Connections prints biweekly in the summer beginning with this June 28-July 12 issue. The weekly eblast continues each Friday.

Holiday Hours

In observance of Independence Day, the church building and offices will be CLOSED on Friday, July 3. Have a safe holiday.