

First Presbyterian Church
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fpcmoorestown.org
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**Connect. Devote.
Serve. Worship.**

COVID-19 Advisory

**The church campus is
CLOSED until further
notice.**

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
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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF MOORESTOWN

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

May 17-24, 2020

Way of the Week 21

YOU'RE SENT, NOW GO. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and In the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Read: Genesis 12: 2, 3; Matthew 5: 14-16; John 20: 21

GRACE NOTES

SEND and GO is an exchange between two individuals. God sends us, and we respond in love and obedience by going. We often do not understand why we are sent, but His purpose unfolds as we go!

Moses was sent by God to Pharaoh, asking him to let the Israelites go from Egypt. After a series of plagues, Pharaoh told them to go from Egypt. God sent them into the wilderness. As they demonstrated their willingness to go, they were ultimately led to the Promised Land.

Jonah was sent to preach repentance to the city of Ninevah, but he refused to go! After various adventures on the Mediterranean Sea, he obeyed God, and decided to go. An entire city was saved.

In John 10, Jesus tells us that he was sent by the Father, and He willingly agreed to go to earth, and then to the cross, for the salvation of humankind. He later told us, "As the Father has sent me, I send you. Go and make disciples of all nations."

As we are open to the leading of the Spirit, we may be called to go as we visit a neighbor, offer a prayer to those we encounter, make a phone call, deliver a meal, or be a friend to those in need.

We currently find ourselves in a situation where we may not be able to physically go and meet the needs of others. We are blessed to live in a time that has given us many ways to send the Gospel around the world. We can go behind closed doors with TV, radio, and Zoom! We are able to send missionaries and supplies to the uttermost parts of the earth. We are given new opportunities to GO in unique ways, delivering the good news, that Jesus Christ is the Son of the living God. He enables us to support the work of those who are able to go on our behalf.

As we are willing to GO, God will have the last word, and it will be good!

Linda Vandergrift

NEW: Zoom Coffee Hour

YOU'RE INVITED to a new Virtual Coffee Hour every Sunday morning from 11:00 AM–Noon. Drop in for casual conversation, connect with new and old friends, discuss the sermon, and enjoy time together on Zoom. Participants will join small breakout groups of 6-10 people guided by a facilitator. Access from your smart phone, tablet or computer. **Meeting ID and Password are on our [FPC Events Page](#).**

Evening Prayer Service

On Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm we offer a weekly oasis to gather in community; a 30-minute service of worship and prayer. Log onto www.fpcmoorestown.org and for that week's Worship Guide. Submit prayer requests, joys or concerns to Stuart Spencer by **WED 9:00 a.m.** and he will include them. Contact Stuart at spencer@fpcmoorestown.org or cell/text: (215) 932-4531. Please include your name with your request.

Prayer Team Zoom

The FPC Moorestown Prayer Team invites you to pray with a team member through Zoom. During this turbulent time of COVID-19, the FPC Prayer Team is grateful you are seeking God and believes our Lord is reaching out to you for comfort, assurance, and answers. We have set up a Weekly Prayer schedule through Zoom—you're invited. [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. Contact [Jim Cole](#), [Arlita & Joe Winston](#), [Pam & Steve Engle](#), or [Joyce Peacock](#). 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.



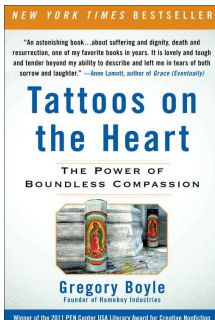
Staff News

Lost among all the changes at FPC Moorestown amid the COVID-19 pandemic is that **Linda Jagiela** is now serving full-time as our Director of Outreach. In recent weeks, Linda has been extra busy staying in touch with our local and international mission partners. She's also been an important guide to the Missions Committee, the Board of Trustees and Session in leading efforts to help others in need. Linda's helpful and difference-making full-time presence brings to a conclusion months-long planning to bring our staff to a place of full strength. Linda and her husband, Philip have been with us three years. We give thanks to God!

Spring Prayer Retreat

**June 16-19, 2020
has been CANCELLED**

It's a Book Club!



We will meet **Monday, May 18th** via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. to discuss *Tattoos on the Heart* by Father Greg Boyle. If you have not read or finished the book, please feel free to still join the discussion.

The [discussion questions](#) can be accessed on our church website events page as well as the Zoom link.

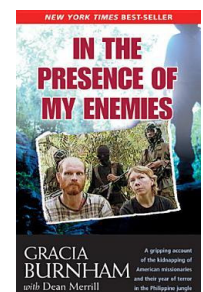
- ◆ Zoom Meeting ID: 823 7844 9904
- ◆ Password: 7h0WVL

You can learn more about the book by watching talks that Father Greg has given.

Consider watching this Ted talk with Father Greg: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipR0kWt1Fkc>

and a speaking engagement at a university: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-lyMc-eVgU>

COMING UP: Our next book is *In the Presence of my Enemies*, by Gracia Burnham. We will meet on **Monday, June 15** at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.





Pentecost COVID-19 Relief Offering

NEW: On Sunday, May 31, Pentecost, a special offering will be collected to aid local missions. Please use the special drop down for an online gift, or put "Pentecost COVID-19 Relief Offering" in the memo line of your mailed check. You may also drop off your donation during the Food Pantry Parade on May 31 from 12:30-2:00 p.m. No cash please.

Food Pantry Parade and Relief Offering

Are you looking for a meaningful way to help that gets you OUT OF THE HOUSE? The Deacons are sponsoring a **Food Pantry Parade!** On Sunday, May 31, Pentecost, we will celebrate the Birthday of the Church by giving "presents" to the local Food Pantry -- without leaving your car.

From 12:30-2:00 p.m., after our worship and Virtual Coffee Hour, drive into the church parking lot and drop off non-perishable food donations from the comfort of your vehicle. Simply drive in a loop and gloved volunteers will retrieve the donations. Please have the items in your trunk and pop the trunk as you approach the drop-off area.

Staff members will be on hand to wave and to bless you. **We miss you!** You may also drop off your special Pentecost COVID-19 Relief Offering at that time as well.

May Session Meeting

Tuesday, May 26, 2020
(videoconference)

Reports due Friday, May 22

Special Meeting of the Congregation June 7, 2020 (via Zoom)

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, New Jersey has called a special meeting of the congregation. This meeting will be held **Sunday, June 7, 2020**, immediately following the 9:30 am worship service via live stream. If in-person worship is permitted at this date, the meeting will occur immediately following the last worship service offered that day. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees to a term of office beginning June 1, 2020. Please stay posted to fpcmoorestown.org for more updated information regarding worship status on a week to week basis. No other business may be brought before the congregation other than the preceding item. **Watch for Zoom Meeting ID and Password on our events page.**

Ann McBride, Clerk of Session

How to Make Disciples

A follow-up training on Disciple Making was held **Saturday, May 2** led by Ed Gross. If you were unable to participate, you may view the training on our website Events page, as well as our first session on Feb. 29th.

Home Communion Sunday, May 31 (Pentecost)

Church Center App

Download the free "Church Center" app to your cell phone to contact the church, give online, join a group and register for church events. Look for the Church Center app and get connected.

Teacher Appreciation

On Sunday, May 17, Teacher Appreciation Sunday, we will virtually honor our Sunday School, Adult Education and Youth teachers during our 9:30 a.m. service. **Look for a special insert attached to the bulletin honoring these fantastic volunteers.** Thank you teachers!

Watching 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](#)

Letters of Well Wishing

We have created an Electronic Letter of Well Wishing, which is "e-signed" by the pastoral staff. To have a letter sent, email Alison at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org with the recipient's information and email. Alison will send a Letter on behalf of our congregation.

PW News

The Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team voted to nominate Carol Morgan to a two-year term as **Moderator**. Carol will be presented to the membership and sworn in at the Fall Gathering. Please join us in celebrating Carol!

SAVE THE DATE for the June 22 **Spring Gathering** hosted by PW featuring Mindy Holman, CEO of Holman Enterprises, via Zoom! All men and women are welcome. Watch for log-on information.

FAMILY MINISTRY



Thank You to our Amazing Teachers and Group Leaders



Well done, Family Ministries Kids! The collage was awesome!

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

On Sunday, May 17, Teacher Appreciation Sunday, we will virtually honor our Sunday School, Adult Education and Youth teachers during our 9:30 a.m. service. **Look for a special insert attached to the bulletin honoring these fantastic volunteers.**

THANK YOU Sunday School teachers, small group leaders, adult education leaders, fellowship group leaders and presenters! We are grateful for your ministry.

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

"For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it."
(1 Thessalonians 1: 8) NRSV

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

This Week's Family Activity: "Pentecost Wind"

Dear Families,

I miss you! I pray you are safe and well. This week in order to begin to prepare for Pentecost it helps to teach children about who the Holy Spirit is before we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus. This is a tough concept for our concrete learners, but I believe the Holy Spirit can intervene and with repetition these spiritual lessons will engulf hearts and change lives. I am praying for you all and I love you!

Holly



Prepare: Set up an oscillating fan to move and blow over the children. Hand each of the children a piece of streamer or strip of tissue paper to hold as you talk. Allow them to hold it up into the wind when it comes their way. (If you do not have a fan, use a blow dryer on the cool setting)

Say: Let's talk about something you can't see, but you know it's there.

(Pretend to begin feeling the wind. Act surprised and unaware of what you're feeling and what the source of the wind is.)

[Read complete lesson here ...](#)

We know you're working hard in online school. Great job! Keep doing your best!