



*We aspire to be beacons of God's love and truth ...*

## **Session Approves Indoor Worship to Begin Sunday, November 1; Limited Indoor Gatherings**

October 16, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of FPC Moorestown,

***“When they said, ‘Let’s go to the house of God,’ my heart leaped for joy. And now we’re here . . .” (Psalm 122: 1)***

As of last Sunday, it’s been 34 weeks since we’ve gathered indoors for worship. That’s well over a half a year. For some of us, it’s felt like forever. I often hear from you that while you appreciate our weekly live stream services, watching worship on a screen isn’t the same as gathering in the sanctuary or Miller Commons with your church family.

I quoted above a Psalm of Ascent, the opening of Psalm 122 from The Message. In the book of Psalms, Psalm 120 to 134 are identified as Songs of Ascent or Pilgrim Songs. The city of Jerusalem was built long ago on a mountain. From every direction, you walk up to get to Jerusalem. When pilgrims would travel to this city for a festival, they would sing the songs found in those chapters.

The picture of a group of faithful followers climbing up a long, steep, hill fits our experiences in 2020. We’ve been climbing since March, haven’t we? We’re not finished either. That’s why I’m happy to share this good news with you. At a special meeting on October 13, our Session unanimously approved plans for indoor worship to resume beginning Sunday, November 1. For the five Sundays in November, we’ll offer one worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. This service will have the feel of a Fifth Sunday service, blending traditional and contemporary elements. We’ll continue offering our live stream for those who can’t come to church or feel safer watching from home. Beginning the first Sunday in December, it’s our intention to offer two worship services: traditional worship at 8:30 a.m. in the sanctuary and contemporary worship at 11:00 a.m. in Miller Commons.

**continued**

### **Phone Live Stream**

There's now another, new way of participating in worship from home. Beginning November 1, we will offer a Phone Live Stream, for those who may not own a computer or be as tech-savvy as they'd like. This allows a member or friend to listen to our worship service on their phone. Those who choose to opt-in will call our toll-free number 844.723.1340. Then, their phone will ring anytime our church service goes live. They can add themselves by calling **844.723.1340** and pressing 1, or calling Alison Mackey in the church office. Every time we go live, their phone system receives the live audio. For information or help, contact Alison at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113.

### **Health and Safety Protocols**

I do ask you to follow the protocols that Session approved at its meeting. We want to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone who attends worship here. You can find a detailed set of instructions for your safe return to our campus on the [Events page of our website](#) or at the bottom of our Worship Guide this coming Sunday.

### **Can You Help?**

We need your assistance on Sunday mornings. As we prepare to welcome, register and guide people on Sunday mornings many volunteers are required to implement these protocols for safe indoor worship. If you would be willing to help serve as a volunteer for check-in or ushering please contact Paul Grossmann at [rpaulgrossmann@yahoo.com](mailto:rpaulgrossmann@yahoo.com) or the church office at 856.235.1688.

I can't wait to see you in worship! Thank you for your kind, patient and generous support.

Yours in Christ,

*Stuart Spencer*

Pastor