First Presbyterian Church

I01 Bridgeboro Road Moorestown, NJ 08057 fpcmoorestown.org 856.235.1688

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

Kelly LePenske Director of

Congregational Ministries klepenske@fpcmoorestown.org

Worship. Connect. Serve. Devote.

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.

Indoor Worship begins Sunday, November I

"Connections" is published weekly for Sunday worship and every two weeks in the summer. Please submit information by

noon Tuesdays to:

Editor Jan Martin <u>jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org</u> 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

November 1-8, 2020

Way of the Week 20 (November 1-8, 2020)

20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.

At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued.^a Claim us as your family.^b Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging.^c Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.^d

- ^aFor we don't live for ourselves or die for ourselves. If we live, it's to honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Christ died and rose again for this very purpose to be Lord both of the living and of the dead. (Romans 14: 7 9)
- They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity. (Acts 2: 46)
- ^cJesus knew their thoughts and replied, "Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A town or family splintered by feuding will fall apart. (Matthew 12: 25)
- ^dThe Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. (Psalm 103: 8)

Ideas for Action: Is there a disappointment you've been carrying about the church? In prayer, offer it to the Lord and ask for his help in releasing it. If you've been sitting on the sidelines at home, get back in the game by returning to worship and joining a small group, a class or a committee. We need you.



Watch the Way of the Week Video by Jonathan & Karin Miller and Rotter Family

⇒ **Fall back** Sunday, November 1 (2:00 a.m.) for Daylight Saving Time

The Church Has Left the Building

Thank you! Thank you Thank you! The tallies are in:

- 75 kits prepared pre-event
- 75 bags of Groceries
- 650 Sandwich lunches
- 800 hold over bags
- 17 Buckets of Joy
- 300 letters & pictures to veterans
- 100 letters to shut ins
- 200 UP Summit bags packed
- 5 welcome baskets for Fellows
- 25 blankets for the homeless
- 7 bags of men's clothing for the homeless
- 25 Operation Christmas Child boxes returned and 150 boxes taken
- 3 balls of plarn
- 20 meals and desserts for Foster the Family
- Church property spruced up at Christian Caring Center and the men's shelters beautified

Even in a pandemic, you hit it out of the ballpark. Thank you for making the Church has Left the Building a home run for many ministries that serve in our community.

Indoor Worship to Begin Sunday, November I

Beginning Sunday, Nov. 1 our 9:30 a.m. blended worship service will accommodate limited seating. Steps have been taken to ensure this is a safe and meaningful experience. Worship will be in the Sanctuary, and limited to approx. 75 attendees and 45 minutes plus minutes arriving/departing. Worship will continue to be live streamed. The single point of entry will be the portico doors, entering the building through the Commons doors then across the parking lot to the portico doors. Temperatures will be taken upon arrival, and all individuals must complete the Health Questionnaire and COVID-19 Waiver. Please wear a mask, and stay home if you are experiencing COVID symptoms. No reservations are required seating is first come, first served and overflow will be seated in Miller Commons to view on screen. Those who live together may be seated together. In all other cases,

physical distancing will be marked. Please download the Church Center App to your smart phone to facilitate a contact-less check-in upon arrival. **See our website.**

Download the Church Center App to Check-In

Check-in quickly, easily and contact-free from your smart phone. See the volunteer upon arriving.

- (1) Download the "Church Center App" to your phone from either the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android).
- (2) Follow prompts to enter the church's name or zip code.
- (3) Select "Check In" when you arrive and look for the checkin icon (QR code). Tap the icon when attending an on-campus service or gathering and scan the QR code to let us know you are in attendance.

Coming: Angel Tree Online

Series: The (Un)simple Truth

Our adult spiritual formation series The (Un)simple Truth is a monthly Zoom webinar on the first Monday of every month (7-8 pm), featuring Christian authors, pastors and professors.

About our Nov. 2 presenters: Dave and Marisa Avramovich are an incredible ministry team serving the Southwest Division of Young Life in the U.S. Dave is the Regional Director for Young Life—Los Angeles, a highly multi-cultural role overseeing thousands of students in SoCal, while Marisa is a director for Young Life Catholic Relations and leads training sessions on leadership, faith formation and cultural biases. They've been involved in youth ministry for decades.

A Message from the APNC

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee (APNC) has continued to meet weekly on Zoom. We read Personal Information Forms (PIFs or resumes), do research, and discuss what we have learned. We have spoken with a few candidates, but God has still not led us to our next Associate Pastor for Youth and Discipleship Ministries. Please continue to pray for us, and for the person God is grooming for us.

Deacon Sunday

Sunday, November 15 Support the deacon ministry with this annual offering

We Give to the Lord

On October 18th, Consecration Sunday, FPC church members dedicated their 2021 Estimate of Giving Cards. It was a spirit-filled day, featuring an inspiring sermon from Rev. Dr. Shane Berg and incredible Drive-Up Dedication Parade with over 50 cars! What a blessing!

To assist with 2021 budget projections, we kindly ask that all Estimates be turned in **by October 30**. You may submit your pledge securely online, mail it, stop by the church, or contact Norman Vandergrift. As of **October 30**, we have received 160 pledges totaling \$1,239,500. We're well on our way to our goal of 200 pledges.

Christmas Toy Drive

Annette Emerson is conducting the annual toy drive for the Presbytery Food Shelf in Camden. Can you help? Drop off new, unwrapped toys labeled "Emerson" at the Emerson HOME (329 Springhouse Lane, Moorestown). Or call Annette at 856-234-0717 for a pickup. Gifts are most needed for ages 3-13.

Join the Audio Visual Team

Our Audio Visual Team is looking for volunteers aged high school or older to learn our new multicamera system and audio for the Sunday morning live stream worship (9:30 am). We will train you. Contact Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com or Hank Heidler at hrheidler@comcast.net.

Phone Live Streaming

We are embarking on a new program for Phone Live Streaming. Those who wish to sign up can call a toll-free number 844.723.1340 to be joined to our Sunday worship service. When callers opt-in, their phone will ring anytime our Sunday service goes live. Just answer the phone to be joined to our live service and listen to worship on the phone. They can add themselves by calling our unique number and pressing 1. Every time we go live, their phone system receives the live audio. For information or help, contact Alison Mackey in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113.

Blood Drive HERE

On Thursday, Nov. 5 from 1-6 pm in Miller Commons, we will hold our annual Blood Drive to support the American Red Cross. Appointments required. This is a simple, free way to make a meaningful difference. The Red Cross will be taking special precautions during this time by taking temperatures at the door so no one can enter if they have a fever. As a donor you are fully protected. Please sign up for this needed blood drive and help. Donate a gift of life. For questions, please contact Deborah Heller at (856) 273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net. To schedule appointment visit www.redcross.org.



Flower Dedications

Now is the time to reserve Sunday flower donation dates for the rest of this year and for 2021. Vases are \$40 each and 2 vases are available each Sunday. Donations are being taken now. To reserve your special date(s), contact coordinator Rumi Sinunu at 856-266-4047 or rts319@gmail.com. What better way to commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life.

Deacons Offer Seasonal Help for Those in Need

Our Deacons continue to help those in need. While assembling our traditional Thanksgiving Food Baskets is not currently possible, our team will be providing grocery gift cards to those who struggle and are working with local guidance counselors to identify at-risk families. The Deacons are again arranging with Wegmans to provide turkeys to a food pantry in Camden. Please DO NOT deliver turkeys to the church this year.



Watching Worship

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

Log on from your computer, smartphone or tablet:

- 1. www.fpcmoorestown.org
- 2. www.youtube.com
- 3. Our Facebook page



Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone meet Wednesday, November 4

Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone are Back!

JOIN US on the first Wednesday of every month via Zoom for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) at 4:45 pm and every Wednesday on Zoom at 6:30 pm for Crossing Zone (grades 4-6)!

Check out the Kids Group tab on our website to register!

We will be starting our groups on Wednesday, November 4!

- ⇒ Special Presentation: Middle and high school youth are invited to log on to the (Un)simple Truth via Zoom on Monday, November 2 from 7-8 pm. Our speakers are a fantastic youth ministry team Dave and Marisa Avramovich from California. They have an amazing witness for Christ! Find out all about it on our website at www.fpcmoorestown.org/Growth.
- ⇒ Small groups have started for middle and high schoolers! If you haven't touched base with a leader, talk to Dave and he'll set you up.

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

"To dwell in shalom is to enjoy living before God, to enjoy living in one's physical surroundings, to enjoy living with one's fellows, to enjoy life with oneself." - Nicholas Wolterstorff

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, x116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth:

Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 (cell/text)
dfauvell52@gmail.com



For students between kindergarten and 12th grade, Family Ministry offers group activities to get together, hang out, and dig into our faith together. Thank heavens for Zoom and Google Meet!

Following Session action, plans are being finalized for the year given health protocols and restrictions on in-person gatherings. To learn more, visit our website

at <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org</u> under the Growth tab for Kids Group and Youth Group.

Anyone interested in joining the Middle School or High School groups, please contact Interim Youth Director Dave Fauvell at 609-980-7885 cell/text or dfauvell52@gmail.com for group locations.



- ♦ Kingdom Kids Grades K-3, (Once a month on Zoom @ 4:45 pm); Leader: Holly Asciutto
- Crossing Zone Grades 4-6, (Every Wednesday Night on Zoom @ 6:30 pm); Leader: Holly Asciutto
- ◆ Flock Grades 7+8, Wednesday Nights from 7:00-8:00 pm; Leader: <u>Dave Fauvell</u>
- ♦ Wave Grades 9-12, Sunday Nights from 6:30-8:30 pm; Leader: Dave Fauvell