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

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 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

Oct. 25-Nov. 1, 2020

# Way of the Week 19 (October 25-November 1, 2020)

## 19. Accept and Don't Cast Stones.

God's love opens the doors of our church to all people. Just as Jesus did, welcome people as they are.<sup>a</sup> It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.<sup>b</sup>

- <sup>a</sup>Tax collectors and other notorious sinners often came to listen to Jesus teach. This made the Pharisees and teachers of religious law complain that he was associating with such sinful people even eating with them! (Luke 15: 1, 2)
- <sup>b</sup>Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. (Romans 15: 7)

**Ideas for Action:** Approach someone you normally avoid at church for whatever reason. Make a point to speak to them this week.



Watch the Way of the Week Video by Vivian Allen for the Missions Team

Take a moment to SUBSCRIBE to our YouTube Channel and Facebook page to access current content. Make sure you've downloaded the Church Center app too!

#### Page 2

#### The Church Has Left the Building

On **October 25**, we are leaving the building. Literally. Our church-wide mission project has been rede-

signed to reflect the global pandemic, and this year, all activities will be safely done off-site. Kits will be available for pick up



at the church Friday, Oct. 22 at 10 am, and individuals will drop their completed projects off back at the church Sunday, Oct. 25 from 1-3 p.m. There are LOTS of fun projects that can still use helping hands: visit our <u>website page to</u> <u>sign up.</u>

#### There will be NO WORSHIP on Sunday, Oct. 25 so that all may participate.

For questions please contact director of outreach Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

#### Indoor Worship to Begin Sunday, November I

Session leaders have approved protocols to move to indoor worship beginning Sunday, Nov. 1. Steps are being taken to ensure this is a safe and meaningful experience. This 9:30 a.m. worship will be in the Sanctuary, and limited to approx. 75 attendees and 45 minutes plus 15 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 Ouestionnaire 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.

- 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 (08057).
- (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.

#### 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 Call to Fasting and Prayer

Join Pastor Stuart Spencer on Thursdays for a day of full or partial fasting from Sept. 24-Dec. 17. However or whenever you fast on Thursdays, be sure to participate in our Evening Prayer service at 7:00 p.m. If you are unable to fast for medical reasons, plan to make Thursday a special day of prayer for yourself, our church and our nation. DOWNLOAD fasting resources from our Events page, our website, Facebook page or Sermon Series page.

#### **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 what a parade! Over 50 cars drove through the Drive-Up Dedication Parade to personally dedicate their 2021 Estimate, and receive a blessing and prayer from Stuart and Kelly. What a special, meaningful day!

To assist with budget projections, we kindly ask that all Estimates be turned in **by October 30**. You may submit your pledge securely online, mail it in, drop it by the church, or call or email Norman Vandergrift.

As of October 23, we have received 148 pledges totaling \$1,208,300. We're well on our way to our goal of 200.



#### Pick up your box today



#### **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 an visit www.redcross.org.

#### 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 <u>ste-</u> ve@gotsteve.com or Hank Heidler at <u>hrheidler@comcast.net</u>.

#### Holy Communion Sunday, November I

#### **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. Reservations are being taken now. To reserve your special date(s), contact Rumi Sinunu at <u>rts319@gmail.com</u> or 856.266.4047. What better way to commemorate loved ones or special dates in your life.

#### **New: 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.

#### 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. <u>Please</u> <u>DO NOT deliver turkeys to the church this year.</u>

#### 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



# We are planning fun, new activities this year. Jump on board.

## 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 are HOPING to begin our events on Wednesday, November 4.

- ⇒ 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.
- $\Rightarrow$  We have a campfire hangout on Oct. 24 from 7–9 at

the church (field) with Oct. 25 as the rain date. We will have a bunch of candy, warm apple cider, and hot cocoa as we share <u>spooky campfire</u> <u>stories</u>. Ooga booga!



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

"You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." (2 Corinthians 9:7) For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, ×116 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, hangout, 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 <u>Kids Group</u> and <u>Youth</u> <u>Group</u>.

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 <u>dfauvell52@gmail.com</u> 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: Dave Fauvell
- Wave Grades 9-12, Sunday Nights from 6:30-8:30 pm; Leader: <u>Dave Fauvell</u>