

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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856.235.1688

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**Worship. Connect.  
Serve. Devote.**

JOIN US from the safety of your home or safely gathered at church for worship Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.** This Blended Worship streams live from the sanctuary and participants in attendance observe strict protocols per state regulations. Log on from any device to [www.fpcmoorestown.org](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org) or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#). The service is also posted later in the week to our website.

**9:30 a.m. Worship**

*"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](mailto: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**

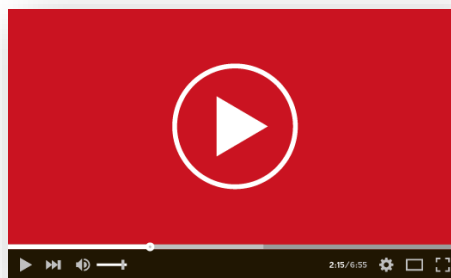
**December 6-13, 2020**

## Way of the Week 25 (December 6-13, 2020)

**25. REJOICE ALWAYS.** The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

- ♦ But his father said to the servants, "Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found." So the party began. (Luke 15: 22-24)
- ♦ Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again – rejoice! (Philippians 4: 4)
- ♦ A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength. (Proverbs 17: 22)

**Ideas for Action:** Plan a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families over to celebrate. Don't forget the cake! What's the occasion? The joy of knowing and serving Jesus and belonging to our church family are reasons enough.



[Watch the Way of the Week Video](#) by Rev. Debby Brincivalli

### **Advent Resources**

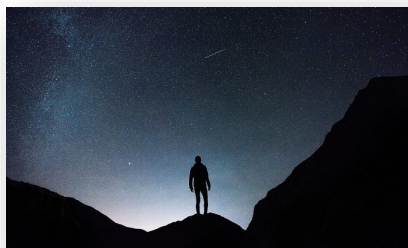
See our [2020 Advent Guide](#) for event and activity information for the Advent Season through Epiphany. Our [Advent Devotional](#) is a daily devotional guide featuring scripture, questions, action steps, and amazing artwork. Pick both up at church or download the PDFs from our website [fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org).

### **Longest Night Service**

**Sunday, December 6, 2020**

**7:00 p.m.**

This service provides healing to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety or depression this holiday season who may not feel the joy or celebration seen in others. The Longest Night includes elements from a remembrance service, including the Lord's Supper, special music and a time for prayer. Due to rising COVID-19 numbers, the service will be live streamed only. Seminary intern Beth Douglass will lead this service. If you, or someone you know needs a place to heal and reflect in the rush of December, come to the Longest Night. Log on: [fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org)



### **Christian Caring Center**

#### **Gift Drive—Deadline**

#### **Moved to Midnight Dec. 6**

**Our deadline for gifts for the Deacons' Christian Caring Center Gift Drive has been moved to midnight Dec. 6, due to overwhelming usage of the site during the pandemic.** Please visit

[www.yougivegoods.com/fpcm2020](http://www.yougivegoods.com/fpcm2020) and follow the prompts

to choose goods

to be delivered directly to Christian Caring Center and homeless and struggling families.

Most appreciated are clothing and warm weather needs (adults and children), toys and books. Need questions or help? Contact Deacon Steve Connlain at

[sconnlain@gmail.com](mailto:sconnlain@gmail.com) or cell/text 856.425.5043.



#### **Sunday Worship**

Session has recommended to continue with one **9:30 a.m.** Blended

Worship service, with live stream. Worship is limited to 75 attendees and 45 minutes, and seating is first come first served. Please enter through the glass doors. Sanctuary doors open at 9:15 a.m. Please physically distance, and download the [Church Center App](#) to your smart phone to facilitate a contact-free check-in. [Visit our website for more information.](#)

#### **West Jersey Chamber: At Home for the Holidays**

Members of the West Jersey Chamber Music Society's Chamber Chorale come together for a socially-distant musical holiday celebration on **Sunday, December 13** at 7:30 p.m. This is the second live streamed concert of the 2020–21 season. Watch from the comfort of your home, for FREE! Host Ivan Woods guides audiences through the evening. **This event will be live streamed from [www.wjcms.org](http://www.wjcms.org) and [www.fpcmoorestown.org](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org).** Complete registration in advance to receive a reminder and a copy of the PDF program.

### **Christmas Eve Schedule Announced**

At a special meeting Dec. 5, Session approved three worship services for Christmas Eve. Given ongoing challenges and rapid changes of the pandemic, it was approved to offer the following services:

- **3:00 p.m.:** Outdoor Service in the courtyard (between the sanctuary and the Commons, approx. 20 minutes in length)
- **4:00 p.m.:** Live Stream Communion Service in the sanctuary
- **7:00 p.m.:** Outdoor Service in the courtyard

*See website, eblast and Events page for details*

### **Poinsettia Orders Due Dec. 6**

The last day to order poinsettias is **Sunday, Dec. 6.** [Order forms](#) are available on our Event page and at church; also reserve [ONLINE](#). Plants will be available to take home after worship on **Dec. 20.** Cost is \$13 each. Please mail orders and payment in to the church office or place in the offering box.

### **Series: The (Un)simple Truth**

*"Becoming Peacemakers"*

**Monday, December 7 (7 pm Zoom webinar)**

Speaker: Amanda Mootz, World Vision

Themes: Advent, discipleship, social justice. Making the Gospel a tangible reality for people from all walks of life. *See our online Events page for the link and passcode to the webinar.*

### Alternative Gift Market

The Alternative Gift Market catalog is now available and gifts may be purchased at church **Dec. 6, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20th** or anytime online. Look for tables in the narthex and Commons Lobby. Purchase your gifts online and pick up with a contact-free drive-up! Volunteers are needed to help with fulfillment; contact [Linda Jagiela](#) if you can help.

Charitable Gifts Supporting Non-Profits

## ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET

### Christmas Toy Drive

As is tradition, Annette Emerson will be 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.

### Missions Zoom Book Club

**Monday, Dec. 14 (6 pm)**

**"Heart-Cry"**

**by Arlita Winston**

### Join the Audio Visual Team

We are looking for friends high school or older to learn our new multi-camera system and audio for the Sunday morning live stream worship. We will train. Contact either Martin Bass at [mbass@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:mbass@fpcmoorestown.org) or Steve Drzaszcz at [steve@gotsteve.com](mailto:steve@gotsteve.com).

### Advent Devotional

Advent devotional booklets are available to guide you through each day of Advent as we anticipate the good news of Christ's birth. Created by Kelly LePenske and our intern Beth Douglass, we'll reflect on what it means to be people of hope, peace, joy and love. Each day includes scripture, questions, action steps, and artwork for ages 15+. You can pick one up in the Miller Commons lobby, sanctuary narthex or [download the PDF](#) online at [fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org). Call the church office at 856.235.1688, or ask to have one mailed to you.



### 2020 Advent Guide

Throughout the four-week Season of Advent there are special, meaningful activities for all ages, some familiar and some new. Pick up a copy of our *2020 Advent Activity Guide* at church or [download the PDF](#) from our website and eblast or ask to have one mailed to you.

### Manger Sunday

Visit our website for suggested gift items for Manger Sunday gifts, which we will present on **Sunday, December 13th** (unwrapped please). Gifts will be provided to clients at Oaks Integrated Care.



### Special Holiday Giving Opportunities

- ◆ **Year-End Stock Donations** — Please remember the church in your year-end donations. Process gifts expediently by contacting your broker or [Norman Vandergrift](#) at 856-235-1688.

*For these offerings, you may mail a check, [give online](#), use the special envelopes in boxed sets or leave in the offering box. Please note in memo line.*

- ◆ **Christmas Green Offering**— this offering directly assists our church's program areas.
- ◆ **Christmas Joy Offering**— this gift to our denomination assists racial-ethnic schools and retired church workers who need financial assistance.
- ◆ **General Budget Help**— this gift above your pledged giving keeps our ministry going forward. Every gift helps us close our current financial gap.



### 2021 Pulpit Flowers

Reserve Sunday flower donations for 2021 to honor loved ones and special dates in your life. Vases are \$40 each and 2 vases are available each Sunday. To reserve your date (s), contact Rumi Sinunu at 856-266-4047 or [rts319@gmail.com](mailto:rts319@gmail.com).



# FAMILY MINISTRY

## Sunday School 10:45-11:45 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)

### Kingdom Kids

As we determine safest practices for the new year, we will be in communication about future Kingdom Kids meetings and 2021 dates. If you are not on the email list for Kingdom Kids and would like to be please send an email to [rscarborough@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:rscarborough@fpcmoorestown.org).

### Crossing Zone

Crossing Zone will meet **December 9th & 16th** and break for the holidays Dec. 23rd - Jan. 20th, resuming Jan. 27th. Starting Jan. 27th, Crossing Zone will return to its previous format of a full hour 6:30-7:30 p.m.

### Youth Small Group Leaders

- ♦ **Middle School Girls:** Colleen Young
- ♦ **Middle School Guys:** Dave Fauvell
- ♦ **Freshman/Sophomore Girls:** Sami Stewart, Carlie Blessing, Chloe Kenney, Gwen Wilkie
- ♦ **Junior Girls:** Lindsay Hinkson and Jess Winston
- ♦ **Senior Girls:** Corinne Callahan
- ♦ **Freshman/Sophomore Guys:** Nate Hinkson
- ♦ **Junior Guys:** Carl Krott and Durell Jenkins
- ♦ **Senior Guys:** Dave Fauvell

**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

"The angel reassured them. 'Don't be afraid!' he said. 'I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!'"  
- Luke 2: 10-11

*For Families and Children:*

**Holly Asciutto**  
856-235-1688, x116  
[hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

*For Families and Youth:*

**Dave Fauvell**  
609-980-7885 (cell/text)  
[dfauvell52@gmail.com](mailto:dfauvell52@gmail.com)

### Virtual Gingerbread House Challenge

WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT! \* Throws Confetti \*

Big thank you to everyone that participated in our Gingerbread House Challenge! Here are the winners:

**Pam Engle, Avery Engle and Miles Engle**

The Houses Most Likely to be Eaten

**Jennifer Allen, Wes Allen, Vivian Allen and Jacob Allen**

The House that is Most Environmentally Conscious

**Kristen Perkowski, Brian Perkowski, Kyle Perkowski and Alex Perkowski**

The House that Most Accurately Depicted 2020

**Alivia Nawrocki and Aubrey Devonshire**

The House that was Most Creatively Themed

Prizes are being mailed! We hope you had as much fun making your houses as we did seeing them!

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**