

First Presbyterian Church
101 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 or safely gathered at church for worship Sunday morning at **9:30 a.m.** The service streams live from the sanctuary and participants in attendance observe strict protocols per state regulations.

Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#). The service is also posted later in the week to our website.

9:30 am 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
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

FPC 
Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Jan. 31 - Feb. 7, 2021

Way of the Week 8 (January 31-February 7, 2021)



8. JUMP IN. Life is full of unexpected problems and needs, large and small. Pay attention to moments when God calls you to action, no matter how ordinary or extraordinary the situation may be. See "disruptions" as invitations to share Christ's love. Write a note. Visit the sick or the grieving. Share a meal.

- ◆ *O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6: 8)*
- ◆ *What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well" – but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. (James 2: 14-17)*
- ◆ *Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. (1 John 3: 18)*

Ideas for Action: Practice one of the actions listed in this week's description: Write a note, visit someone who lives alone, and/or share a meal.

Watch your mail in the coming weeks for a letter from Rev. Spencer and Stewardship chair Nancy Chumney about our per capita giving as a Connectional Church.

Registration Open for Step by Step Preschool

Registration is underway for the 2021-2022 school year at Step by Step Christian Preschool. Early registration for church families and current enrollees began Jan. 11. Open registration for all others begins on Jan. 27. Applications can be found online at www.fpcmoorestown.org/registration. Classes begin in September 2021 and are available for 2 ½ year olds (age 2 by April 1), 3-year olds (age 3 by Sept 30) and Pre-K students (age 4 by Sept. 30). Step by Step offers flexible options for morning or afternoon sessions for 2, 3, 4 or 5 days a week, and is open to members of the church and surrounding area.

Visit the preschool's web site for more information at www.fpcmoorestown.org/step-by-step-preschool or contact director Amy Delgado at 856.235.1688, x132.

Spring Inquirer's Class held March 3rd, 6th

The Membership Committee will be holding a Spring Inquirer's Class virtually in March for those interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church and possibly joining the congregation. The two-part Zoom series will be held online on the following dates:

- ♦ Wed. March 3 (7:00-8:30 pm)
- ♦ Sat. March 6 (8:30-10:30 am)

During this class you'll learn about what we believe as a church, some of the ministries we have here, and discuss basic Christian beliefs. It is a great starting point to explore what we do here at FPC Moorestown and if this church might be the right church for you!

To SIGN UP contact Alison at 856-235-1688, Ext. 113 or amackey@fpcmoorestown.org or register on the [online Events page](#).



Lounge Overhaul

It's been decades since the Lounge has seen any improvements. This month the often-used room received a much-needed makeover including: fresh paint on the walls and trim ... major repairs to the deteriorated plaster walls and ceiling ... refinishing the bookshelves ... polishing the hardwood floors ... cleaning the rug and replacing the padding ... dry cleaning seat cushion covers ... upgrading electrical outlets, switches and covers ... replacing the sheer door curtains ... replacing all light bulbs to LED. Thank you to property's Ken Wehn and Steve Margerum for weeks of hard work!



Annual Meeting Webinar

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7, 2021 at 11:00 am via Zoom webinar. The purpose of the meeting is to share the Annual Report, receive the 2021 church budget, and approve the 2021 pastor's terms of call. [Watch our website, eblast and Events page for the webinar link](#). The Annual Report will be available Sunday, January 31.

January 31st is Blanket Sunday

[Blanket Sunday](#), a special offering sponsored by our Deacons and [Church World Service](#), is coming Sunday, January 31. Your contributions enable Church World Service to help families around the world stay warm, recover from disasters and displacement, while helping to rebuild viable, sustainable lives and communities. [Visit our Events page to watch a short video ...](#)

To donate, simply select the Blanket Sunday drop down from our secure online giving menu at www.fpcmoorestown.org, or you may mail checks made out to First Presbyterian Church with Blanket Sunday noted in the memo line.



Annual Giving Statements

Annual giving statements for 2020 have been mailed to member households. **Please compare with your records.** Thank you for your generous giving to your church in this tumultuous year. For any questions or discrepancies, please contact [Norm Vandergrift](#) at (856) 235-1688, Ext. 112.



Ash Wednesday Worship; Imposition of Ashes to Go

The Journey of Lent begins on Wednesday, Feb. 17 with **Ash Wednesday Worship** at 7:00 pm. Worship will be in the sanctuary by LIVE STREAM ONLY.

Earlier that day, we will be holding two special **drive-through Ashes to Go** at 12 noon and 5:00 pm. Participants will drive safely into the main parking lot and be greeted for prayer and to receive the imposition of ashes or anointing oil, either on the forehead or the back of the hand. Please wear masks.

Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent

Spotlight on 2020

Visit our website and eblasts to view a fantastic video by Martin & Chris Bass, Barbara Duffy and Jan Martin, celebrating FPC Moorestown's remarkable firsts and pivots as we coped with the global COVID-19 pandemic. And always, with God at the helm ...

Lenten Book Study

We invite all current small groups to consider reading [The Good and Beautiful Community](#) during our six-week church-wide study, beginning the first week of Lent. Author James Bryan Smith, a professor and Methodist pastor, has a heart for the church and spiritual formation and asks the questions: 1) How do we become more authentic Christ-followers, and 2) How do we become a beloved and vital community for others, no matter our differences? **Sign ups open Friday, Feb. 5 online; visit our online Events page or website for details.**

Book groups start on **Sunday, Feb. 21st** and run through Easter. Groups may meet online or in person, observing COVID-19 protocols. Order books through Amazon or purchase a limited number through the church office for \$13. Contact Alison Mackey at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113 to reserve a copy or sign up. Want to start a group? Please do! Let [Alison Mackey](#) or [Kelly LePenske](#) know ASAP!



Church Entry

During regular business hours, people may enter the church building through the glass doors by Miller Commons. The back staff lot door remains locked. Masks are required on campus. Staff is available by appointment in the church offices and remotely. For questions please contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

Guest Preacher Luke Maxted February 7

We welcome guest preacher Rev. Luke Maxted to our worship service on **Sunday, Feb. 7**. Luke studied at London School of Theology where he earned a degree in Theology and completed a research Masters on



God as Father in Matthew's Gospel. Since graduating he has worked as a pastor in a Baptist church in London and an Anglican

church in the suburbs of London where he specialized in ministry with children and families. Luke is married to Kelly and they have two sons, Reuben (8) and Judah (5). He is a fellow at UrbanPromise International with Kelly and they plan to launch the UK's first UrbanPromise when they return home.

Phone Live Streaming

Want to *listen* to the church service on your phone instead of watching the live stream? Opt in by calling our toll-free number **844-723-1340** at 9:25 am and press 1 to be joined to our Sunday service. You can also contact Alison Mackey (Ext. 113) in the church office to be added to an automatic call list.

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.

Families: New Lent-in-a-Bag

FAMILY MINISTRY

REMINDER: Sunday School has been cancelled for Sunday, January 31

Holly Asciutto has suffered the death of her father and our prayers are with her and her family. Please note the following cancellations for **Wednesday, February 3**:

- ♦ **Crossing Zone** (grades 4-6th) will be CANCELLED for February 3 and will resume **Wednesday, Feb. 10** from 6:30-7:30 pm with all COVID protocols in place.
- ♦ **Kingdom Kids** will be CANCELLED for February 3 and will resume **Wednesday, Feb. 10** from 4:45-5:45 pm in Fellowship Hall, with all COVID protocols in place.

Contact the church office at 856.235.1688



Middle schoolers and high schoolers:
Find relationships in our youth small groups

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

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

- Genesis 1:1

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

Lent-In-a-Bag Take Home Activity: Praying with Jesus

NEW! The 40 days of Lent has historically been a time of fasting, prayer, and study for those wishing to grow closer to God. It can be a time for personal and collective reflection and transformation. We look honestly at ourselves and are reminded of who we belong to while aligning with Christ's sacrifice. In scripture, the number 40 is significant as the Israelites spent forty years in the wilderness preparing for the promised land, and Jesus went into the wilderness for forty days to prepare for his ministry. These two stories show us that God can use Lent to help us make new choices and begin a new direction for our hearts and lives.

Lent-in-a-Bag is a take-home activity we are offering beginning Ash Wednesday February 17 to each FPC Moorestown family. [Read more on our online events page, eblast, or website.](#) The First Sunday in Lent is February 21.

⇒ **What it Contains:** Each kit contains everything you need. Families will pick one day each week, and after dinner or before bedtime, take turns, reaching in and pulling out the self-contained devotion for the week. This Lent-in-a-Bag is themed “Praying with Jesus.” Each Scripture and devotion are about one of the times Jesus used prayer before a major act or immediately after. This does not require much time, but families, especially children, will look forward to each week with anticipation.

⇒ **How to receive one:** If you would like to pick up a Lent-in-a-Bag, they will be available beginning **Wednesday, Feb. 17th**, in the Commons Lobby during Choristers and Crossing Zone, and Sunday Mornings in the Commons Lobby.

For more information please contact Holly Asciutto hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or cell/text 609.273.7465.