

First Presbyterian Church
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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.** 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

February 21-28, 2021

Way of the Week II (February 21-28, 2021)



11. MAKE OTHERS AT HOME HERE. Warmly welcome newcomers and visitors. Offer your name with a smile. Reach out and greet the person you don't know after worship, during Coffee Hour, in Youth Group or Sunday school. Show a genuine interest in others

- ♦ *Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15: 7)*
- ♦ *Welcome her in the Lord as one who is worthy of honor among God's people. Help her in whatever she needs, for she has been helpful to many, and especially to me. (Romans 16: 2)*

Ideas for Action: Look for someone you don't know very well. Invite that person for coffee, a walk or a meal and get to know them. Keep your eyes peeled for the guest or visitor at our church and offer your name and a smile of welcome. Pave the way for new friendships wherever you are.

About 120 people are signed up to participate in our Lenten book study, reading "The Good and Beautiful Community." YES, there's still time to sign up; groups start meeting this week. See page 2 for information on getting started, and how to pick up a book at the church office.

SENIORS: do you need help registering for the COVID vaccine?

Chris Catanella and Ginny Weber are available to help you. [See our events page!](#)

Lenten Book Study

We invite all current small groups to read [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](#) are **OPEN**; visit our [online Events page](#) or website.

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, CBD or purchase a limited number through the church office for \$12. 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!

How Can You Serve Your Church?

The Nominations Committee is currently seeking individuals to staff the three Boards of the church: Elders, Deacons and Trustees. Please pray about where God may be calling you. [Fill out an online nominations form](#) on our online events page to nominate yourself or others. Questions? Contact Gil Warren at gbkwarren@verizon.net.



**First Sunday of Lent
Sunday, February 21
(Lord's Supper)**

Per Capita Due Feb. 28

Last month information was mailed to members regarding our annual Per Capita giving. As Presbyterians, we are a *connec-tional church*. This assessment is a "per member" contribution of **\$38.75 per member** above one's pledge, that each church pays annually to the larger church and includes funding for the General Assembly, Synod and West Jersey Presbytery.

Congregation members are asked to help provide the \$38.75 for themselves and/or their member children (if able). Or you may [submit an "opt out" request](#) if you do NOT wish this portion to be paid. You must alert the church office. Your response and support is most appreciated and will assist the church in paying this assessment. For questions please call Norm in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 112.

-- Stewardship Committee

February Book Club: "Dragon Ride"

Join us on **Monday, February 22nd** at 6:00 p.m. for the Missions Book Club via Zoom.

Dragon Ride: True Stories of Adventure, Miracles, and Evangelism from China by Grace Jacob (Author), Dr. John Townsend (Foreword). In *Dragon Ride*, the beauty of the Lord is seen through the eyes of Buddhists, atheists, idol worshippers, Muslims, and an animist as they encounter Jesus. *Dragon Ride* records the actual conversations Grace had with her friends, and many of them embraced Christ as the answer to their deepest longings.

Log on to: www.zoom.com
Meeting ID: 858 1209 6236
Passcode: 040982



On Ash Wednesday at 12 noon and 5:00 p.m., Pastor Stuart conducted a contact free imposition of ashes as a meaningful reminder that "we are dust and to dust we shall return." Generous food donations were collected for the local food pantry.

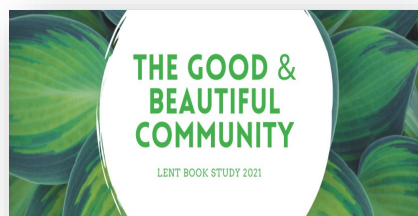
Spring Inquirers' Class held virtually in March

The Membership Committee will be holding a Spring Inquirers' Class via Zoom in March for those interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church and possibly joining the congregation. The 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)
- ♦ Sun. March 7 (11-12:30 pm with Session)

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!

Register on the [online Events page](#) or contact Alison at 856-235-1688, Ext. 113.



Church Entry

During regular business hours, please enter the church building through the unlocked glass doors by Miller Commons. The back staff lot door is locked. Masks are required on campus. Staff is available in the offices by appointment and remotely.

Pastor Vacation

Pastor Stuart Spencer will be out of the office **February 21-March 2**. Please contact [Kelly LePenske](#) or [Jan Martin](#) for pastoral care during this time at 856.235.1688.

CREDO: Starts March 7

CREDO is a course for young people who are interested in learning about following Jesus and becoming members of the church. Pastor Stuart Spencer and Kelly LePenske will co-lead the class which begins on **Sunday, March 7** from 11:00 am-12:15 pm in Miller Commons, following all COVID protocols. Those students who began CREDO last year are invited to complete the course this year. For info or to sign up contact Pastor Stuart at sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org or the church office at 856.235.1688.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Registration Open for Step by Step Preschool

Open registration is underway for the 2021-2022 school year at Step by Step Christian Preschool. Applications can be found online at www.fpcmoorestown.org/registration. Classes begin in September 2021 and are for 2 ½ year olds, 3-year olds and Pre-K students. Learn more at www.fpcmoorestown.org/step-by-step-preschool or contact [Amy Delgado](#) at 856.235.1688, x132.



ARC Blood Drive

Appointments are being taken for the American Red Cross Blood Drive on **Thursday, March 4th** from 1-6 p.m. in Miller Commons. Appointments required. This is a simple, free, COVID-safe way to make a meaningful difference. So please sign up for this needed blood drive and our upcoming drive on Friday, May 14th. Donate a gift of life! For questions, contact Deborah Heller at (856) 273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net. To schedule an appointment visit www.redcross.org.

Easter Flower Orders

Orders for Easter flowers will be taken **March 7, 14 and 21**. Order online and mail in your payment, or submit payment and your order form in the narthex following worship. Flowers are \$13 each and will be assorted spring varieties. Flowers may be picked up after worship on Easter April 4 (6:30 a.m. Cemetery Cross; 8:30 a.m. Outdoor, and 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Live Stream.)

Palm Sunday Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing

Families: Fish banks will be available in the Lent-in-a-Bags. [Gifts may be made online](#) using the One Great Hour of Sharing drop down. Palm Sunday is March 28th.

Connections Hard Copy?

Would you prefer to receive your copy of *Connections* in "snail mail" instead of electronically? Please contact [Jan Martin](#) in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 133 with your name and address.

FAMILY MINISTRY

Hang with us at Sunday School 10:45-11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

[Kingdom Kids](#) (K-3rd) and [Crossing Zone](#) (grades 4-6th) will meet **Wednesday, Feb. 24** with all COVID protocols in place:

- ⇒ Kingdom Kids: 4:45-5:45 p.m. Fellowship Hall
 - ⇒ Crossing Zone: 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
- Contact [Holly Asciutto](#) at cell 609.273.7465

One Great Hour of Sharing March 28

The Lent bags will include the One Great Hour of Sharing "fish banks," our traditional Palm Sunday activity.



CONGRATULATIONS Dave Fauvell and Sami Stewart
on your engagement!

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

"What is important is faith expressing itself in love."

- Galatians 5: 6

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. The Lent bags will also include the One Great Hour of Sharing "fish banks" for Palm Sunday's offering.

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.