

101 Bridgeboro Road • Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 • *fpcmoorestown.org* Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor / Head of Staff Kelly LePenske, Director of Congregational Ministries



Sunday, April 25, 2021 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Miller Commons)

Way of the Week

- **20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.** At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.
 - "For 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)
 - "Jesus 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)
 - *"The Lord is compassionate and merciful, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. (Psalm 103:8)*

<u>Ideas for Action</u>: 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!

Welcome and Work of God's People

Rev. Stuart Spencer

The Lord says, "Welcome! Everyone is welcome in this sacred place. No matter who you are or what you have done, welcome."

This is a house of prayer for all people, home to all who come.

The Lord says, "Come and know me. Come to me and be rid of your crushing wrongs. Come find rest and be filled with my hope."

We come: friend and stranger, saint and sinner.

The Lord says, "Come with hope or hesitation. Come with joy or yearning. All who hunger, all who thirst for life in all its fullness: come!"

Generous Father, kind Savior, powerful Spirit, touch each one of us, for Your sake and for Your glory.

Songs of Praise

Your Love Never Fails Mighty to Save

Prayer of Confession

Time for silent prayer and reflection

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear now the Words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and who seek to renew their lives: Your sins and mine are forgiven. Jesus says, "Go in peace and follow me."

Lead us now, oh God, to acknowledge your costly generosity by living as forgiven people until Heaven and Earth rejoice and the whole Earth cries "Glory!" Amen.

| Sharing with Our Children | Frantz Constant |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
|---------------------------|-----------------|

Prayer of the People and the Lord's Prayer ('debts')

Offertory

Your giving dramatically impacts the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. These offerings allow us to fully support our Staff and honor commitments to mission partners during the pandemic. Thank you to all who have signed up for our secure automatic withdrawal or are giving directly through the Church Center app for tithes and offerings.

Praise Song Worship Team More and More

Sermon

And So It Begins

Scripture Text: Mark 1:1-18 (NLT) Sermon Series: Live-able: The Discipleship Gospel

Rev. Spencer

Rev. Spencer

Kelly LePenske

Call to Worship

Rev. Spencer

Worship Team

Kelly LePenske

Frantz Constant

Closing Song

Awesome is the Lord Most High

Benediction and Going Forth

You are invited to leave an offering in the offering box located by the doors into Miller Commons. Online gifts may also be made directly from the Church Center app on your smart phone.

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

| Taylor Adair |
|--|
| Alice Conley |
| Martin Bass-Guitar; Christine Bass-Keys; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Don Stevens- |
| Bass; Barry Overton-Drums |
| Gretchen Birdsall and Sally Bishop |
| Jeff Legath and Matt LaGrou |
| Paul Lewis |
| Frantz Constant, Beth Douglass |
| |

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her sisters, Elizabeth Seropian & Maline Broburg by Lucy Rorke-Adams.

<u>Live-able: The Discipleship Gospel</u> - At FPC Moorestown, we strive to be a congregation *of* disciples who *make* disciples. The message we preach and the message we hear determines the disciple we'll become and the disciples we'll make. For 16 Sundays, we'll closely examine the "discipleship gospel", what Jesus preached and what we must do using the Gospel of Mark. Our sermon series is *Live-able: The Discipleship Gospel.* For information on additional study resources and registration for a Sunday morning class on discipleship, visit our Events page.

Volunteers Needed for Check-In: Since we're back to two in-person Services, we need double the help on Sunday mornings. We're looking for three volunteers at EACH service. Sign up for one Sunday or as many as you can. Teens are welcome—you can earn service credit! Click here to see open volunteer times on our Sign Up Genius page. Questions? Contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

<u>Notice of Special Congregational Meeting</u> - May 2, 2021: The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation for Sunday, May 2 at 10:00 AM via Zoom. The purpose of the Meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons, and Trustees to a term of office beginning June 1, 2021.

Drive-Through Farewell Reception: With grateful hearts for her ministry, we will say farewell to Kelly LePenske, who is moving to Brooklyn, NY to begin her life with fiancé, Joey Sponseller. Kelly's last day with us will be **Sunday, May 2**, when she will preach at both Services. Congregation members will be able to wish Kelly well in person at a Drive-Through Farewell from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on May 2. <u>A letter from Pastor Stuart</u> was recently mailed with details about the event and ways to honor Kelly and her ministry at FPC Moorestown.

Rev. Spencer

National Day of Prayer:

- Date: Thursday, May 6
- Theme: LORD, Pour Out Your Love, Life and Liberty from II Corinthians 3:17, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty".
- For additional information:

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/nationaldayofprayer/pages/8761/attachments/original/1587 579240/Families Pray for the Nation 2020.pdf?1587579240

Virtual Mission Fair: The Great Commission - Missionopoly, May 9-23

Get ready to take a virtual trip around the world! It's an interactive Mission Fair, which takes you around the globe from the comfort of your home. Information bags will be available **May 9-23** in Miller Commons lobby. Watch the videos, play the game, pray the devotions, compete in Trivia Night on May 21, and join our missionaries live on May 23 throughout the day for Zoom panel discussions and Q&A.

<u>Gracism: The Art of Inclusion</u> – A joint, virtual study with the Converge Church coming in June, Thursdays from 7-9 p.m. FPC Moorestown and the Converge Church, a multicultural congregation in Moorestown, join together for a four-week study of the book, *Gracism: The Art of Inclusion* by David Anderson. People deal with color, class or culture in a negative way, that's racism. We can look at color, class and culture in a positive way. That's "gracism." For information visit: <u>www.embracegracism.com</u>. **To register, visit our online Event page at** <u>https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/804053</u>.</u>

Vacation Bible School: June 28-July 2, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Children entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade (FALL 2021). Cost: \$20 per child **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 9**

At Rocky Railway VBS, kids climb aboard for mountains of fun! Kids will discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. ADULTS AND TEENS (7th grade and older): **Interested in being a VBS volunteer?** WE NEED YOU! Please contact Holly Asciutto at <u>hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org</u> or 856-235-1688, Ext. 116. She is excited to talk with you.

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