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 or safely gather at church to worship on Sunday morning:

8:30 AM: Traditional II AM: Contemporary

Worship streams live from each worship space 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.

"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

April 18-25, 2021

Way of the Week 19 (April 18-25, 2021)



- **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.^a It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.^b
- ^aTax 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)
 - ^b 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.

We Give to the LORD

Thank you for your generous Easter offering gifts. If you had not had a chance to send in a donation and wish to, Easter offerings can still be submitted securely online (use Easter drop down) or mailed to the church at 101 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Please note "Easter offering" in memo line.

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Check-In Volunteers

In order to maintain our health protocols and facilitate check in for two services, will need double the help with check-in volunteers. We're looking to staff three volunteers at EACH service (3 for 8:30 a.m. Traditional; 3 for 11:00 a.m. Contemporary). For each service, two volunteers will be stationed in the Commons Lobby and one will be stationed in the narthex. Teens and adults are welcome! TEENS: earn service credit!

Please see the Sign Up Genius link below for vacancies: <u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/8050D48A5AD23A1FC1-help

For questions contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Legacy Giving Sunday June 6, 2021

April Book Club

JOIN US on **Monday, April 19** at 6:00 p.m. for the Missions Book Club via Zoom. We will be discussing *Shaken* by Tim Tebow. In this powerful book, Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow passionately shares glimpses of his journey, staying grounded in the face of disappointment, criticism, and intense media scrutiny.

To participate in the call: Log on to: www.zoom.com

Meeting ID: 858 1209 6236 Passcode: 040982



A Note from Kelly & Joey

Dear FPC Friends and Family: WOW. Just wow! Thank you to every single person who sent a card or showed up for the drive thru wedding shower last Sunday, April 11th. Joey and I were (and still are) overwhelmed by your love, generosity, and support. What a day we'll always cherish and remember.

It was wonderful to also celebrate your marriages, hear personal stories, and receive words of wisdom from so many. Thank you for blessing us beyond measure. I will carry each of you in my heart when I move to Brooklyn.

A special shout out goes to Tamara Trzeciak, Jan Martin, the FPC Property Team and every volunteer who made this day possible. We thank God for each one of you!!

– Kelly & Joey

Blood Drive May 14

You're Invited to our spring blood drive for the American Red Cross. Give the gift of life today.

- Friday, May 14
- 1-6 p.m. in Miller Commons

Sign up with Debbie Heller at <u>dhel-</u> <u>ler374@comcast.net</u> or online at <u>https://</u> <u>www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive</u> and enter our church's name.

AMERICAN RED CROSS



National Day of Prayer is May 6, 2021; Devotional

The National Day of Prayer is observed annually on the first Thursday in May. This year's theme is LORD Pour Out Your Love, Life and Liberty. (2 Corinthians 3: 17). The Prayer Committee invites you to visit our website for marvelous resources including a 40-day Prayer Guide for America, devotion, family gathering prayers and event history. This day of observance, designated by Congress, asks people to turn to God in repentance and prayer. The National Day of Prayer has great significance for our nation as it enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. It is a call for us to humbly come before God, seeking His guidance for our leaders and His grace upon us as a people.



Church Building Entry

During regular business hours 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 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. Please contact staff for their hours in the building.

April Session: April 27 (Reports due April 23)



Coming to FPCM: <u>Virtual Mission Fair</u> The Great Commission:

Missionopoly May 9-23, 2021

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 May 21 and join our missionaries live on May 23rd throughout the day for Zoom panel discussions and Q&A. Watch for details coming soon!



Watching the Live Stream? When watching the live stream, please remember to check in on your smart phone by using the Church Center App. Just follow the prompts where you are viewing:

- Open the Church Center App on your phone or device
- Select the "Check-In" icon
- Tap the service you're viewing
- Check-in yourself and your family members. Done!

Check-in procedures when <u>attend-</u> ing worship in-person are unchanged: check in with volunteers in the Commons Lobby.

Kelly's Last Sunday May 2

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 at a Drive -Through Farewell



from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on **May 2**. <u>A</u> <u>letter from Pastor Stuart</u> was recently mailed with details about the event and ways to honor Kelly and her ministry at FPC Moorestown.

New: Gracism Study in June

Gracism: The Art of Inclusion - A joint, virtual study with the Converge Church, is coming in June, Thursday evenings 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. When 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." Pastor David Anderson of Bridgeway Community Church, invites followers of Jesus to respond to prejudice and injustice with the principle of gracism, radical inclusion for the marginalized and excluded. Our joint study allows for our two congregations to study, listen, share, and pray together while beginning or building friendships. See our online events page for information and to register. MORE: Visit the Gracism website: www.embracegracism.com..



See you at Sunday School ~ 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

<u>Kingdom Kids</u> (K-3rd) and <u>Crossing Zone</u> (grades 4-6th) meet on **Wednesday, April 21st.** We can't wait to see you! Contact <u>Holly Asciutto</u> at cell 609.273.7465

- \Rightarrow Kingdom Kids: 4:45-5:45 p.m. Fellowship Hall
- \Rightarrow Crossing Zone: 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Save the Date for End of Year Parties

Kingdom Kids May 12 ~ Crossing Zone May 19 (during regular group meeting times)

April 18: Youth Group In-Person Returns

All students grade 7–12, join us for youth group in person starting **Sunday, April 18**, from 6:30–8:30 PM in the Commons. Middle school and high school will be together for the remainder of this year for time with peers, worship, learning, and fellowship. Please fill out the health form on the website and wear a mask when you come. If you are not comfortable with larger group gatherings you are welcome to come at 7:45 PM for our small group time. If you have any questions please reach out to <u>Dave Fauvell</u>. Can't wait to see everyone!

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

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

Children entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade (FALL 2021). Cost: \$20 per child. *REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 18th*

At Rocky Railway VBS, kids climb aboard for mountains of fun! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs! In an effort to provide a safe, in-person, Vacation Bible School for our children we have modified times for VBS this year to 9:30-11:30 a.m. We anticipate delivering a fun VBS with the necessary precautions in place. We are working hard to bring a spiritually meaningful program to our community.



- Safety will be our highest priority, for both our children and staff. At no time will either be compromised. All efforts will be made to abide by state, local, and FPC Moorestown church guidelines that are in place at that time.
- All children and volunteers will be required to wear facemasks when inside the building and while outside on church property. Social distance protocols will be enforced and handwashing will be encouraged.
- VBS will be a creative modified version, consisting of Biblical teachings done in an engaging yet safe manner.
- We encourage you to reach out with your questions. It is important, and our desire, to offer our children this valuable experience in a safe manner. For more information contact: Holly Asciutto at 856-235-1688 x 116 or email <u>hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.</u>

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!