First Presbyterian Church

101 Bridgeboro Road Moorestown, NJ 08057 fpcmoorestown.org 856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor / Head of Staff
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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 25-May 2, 2021

Way of the Week 20 (April 25-May 2, 2021)



- **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)

Ideas for Action: 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.

SPECIAL NOTE: Virtual Congregational Meeting May 2

The Session of First Presbyterian Church has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, May 2, 2021 in order to elect officers to a term beginning June 1, 2021. Please see our online Event page and website for the official notification. **The meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom, and be between services.**

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:

https://www.signupgenius.com/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



Coming to FPCM: Virtual Mission Fair

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!

Support our Preschool

Support our wonderful preschool and take a day off from cooking on Tuesday, April 27 from 5-8 p.m. at the Chick Fil-A at Centerton Square. Please mention in the drive-through or at the register that you are there for Step by Step Christian Preschool, so we get credit. Then order away! Please invite your neighbors and friends to do the same ...

- Chick Fil A Centerton Square
- ♦ 58 Centerton Road
- ♦ Mount Laurel, NJ
- Tues. April 27 from 5-8 p.m.



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 dhel-ler374@comcast.net or online at https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive and enter our church's name.



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 in person at a Drive-Through Farewell from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on **May 2**. A letter from Pastor Stuart was recently mailed with details about the event and ways to honor Kelly and her ministry at FPC Moorestown.

National Day of Prayer is May 6, 2021; Guides

The Prayer Committee encourages you to please pray as a family, in advance of the National Day of Prayer on May 6. You can begin praying on Thursday, April 29, for the 8 days leading up to the National Day of Prayer. You may use the 2021 National Day of Prayer or other GUIDES on our Event page and website to assist you and your family in specific ways to pray.

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). Please visit our website for marvelous resources including:

- 1. <u>Fast Forward Prayer Guide for</u> America
- 2. How to Pray for America
- 3. <u>2021 National Prayer for</u> America.



Church Building Entry

The church's regular business hours are 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.

Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd

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>attending worship in-person</u> are unchanged: check in with volunteers in the Commons Lobby.



Farewell and Best Wishes

April 25th will be the last Sunday for our two seminary interns **Beth Douglass** and **Frantz Constant.** We thank them both for their hands-on ministry and wish them God's speed ahead as they begin new opportunities serving the Lord. May you be blessed.

Administrative Assistant Rachel Scarborough shared with staff that she has found a new job opportunity, one that fits her career goals, and has submitted her resignation. Due to the urgency of her new job, which involves travel and is time sensitive, her last day was April 28, 2021. We wish Rachel well and truly enjoyed the experience of working with her.

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 FPC Moorestown and the p.m. 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." 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 to register. Visit the Gracism website: www.embracegracism.com..

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 on 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



Come join the fun! Volunteer for VBS this year ...

<u>Kingdom Kids</u> (K-3rd) and <u>Crossing Zone</u> (grades 4-6th) meet on **Wednesday, April 28th.** We can't wait to see you! Contact Holly Asciutto at cell 609.273.7465

⇒ Kingdom Kids: 4:45-5:45 p.m. Fellowship Hall ⇒ 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)

Sundays: Youth Group In-Person

All students grade 7–12, join us for youth group in person 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 Dave Fauvell. 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

"The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News."

- Mark 1: 15

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 9, 2021*

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! 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 is our highest priority, for both children and staff. 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.
- ♦ It is our desire to offer our children this valuable experience in a safe manner. Please reach out with any questions. Contact Holly Asciutto at 856-235-1688 x 116 or email hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.
- ADULTS AND TEENS (7th grade and older): Interested in being a VBS volunteer? WE NEED YOU! Please contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or 856-235-1688, Ext. 116. She is excited to talk with you!

