First Presbyterian Church

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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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Peter Jonescu

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Worship. Connect. Serve. Devote.

JOIN US from the safety of your home or safely gather at church to worship on Sunday morning:

9:30 AM 5th Sunday Blended Worship

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

May 30-June 6, 2021

Way of the Week 25 (May 30-June 6)

25. REJOICE ALWAYS. The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

- ◆ "But his father said to the servants, 'Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet. And kill the calf we have been fattening. We must celebrate with a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has now returned to life. He was lost, but now he is found.' So the party began." (Luke 15: 22 − 24)
- ♦ Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again rejoice! (Philippians 4: 4)
- ◆ A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit saps a person's strength.
 (Proverbs 17: 22)

Ideas for Action: Plan a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families over to celebrate. Don't forget the cake! What's the occasion? The joy of knowing and serving Jesus and belonging to our church family are reasons enough

Live Forward. Give Forward. Legacy Giving Sunday June 6th

LEGACY GIVING SUNDAY, observed May 3rd in the PC(USA) and June 6th this year at FPC Moorestown, is an invitation to consider how one can share the blessings God has given beyond your lifetime. On this Sunday, we recognize and honor those who have created a legacy here at First Presbyterian Church through bequests, both large and small. These donations benefit our programs and services, ministries, beautiful grounds and property, and our impact in the world, and make an enduring statement of faith for God's work here on earth.

See our Events page for a listing of some ways these gifts have been realized.

In creating a legacy, the dream is to keep our church caring and working here after our lifetime. The Presbyterian Foundation offers many resources to begin this conversation. Including a gift to the church in your will or estate can make a lasting difference for our church family and faith community. It's a simple process and we can help. Please contact Norman Vandergrift, any member of the Stewardship Committee or the church office at 856.235.1688.

Spring Gathering by PW

Monday, June 21 ~ 7:00 p.m. Featuring: Dr. Jenny Legath Presented via live stream and in person (Sanctuary)

TOPIC: "Grace and God's 'Will': Living and Loving in a Special Needs Family."

REGISTER on the online events page by Sunday, June 20.

Jenny Wiley Legath and her husband Jeff joined the church in 2004. They have three active sons: Jack, Will, and Cole. Jenny served as an elder from 2009-2012 and is a devoted member of the Thursday morning Moms Group. In 2008 Jenny earned her Ph.D. in Religion from Princeton University, where she works as the Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Religion. She teaches and advises graduate students, and in the fall she will teach her first undergraduate class at Princeton: "Religion and the Public Conversation." She is the author of Sanctified Sisters: A History of Protestant Deaconesses (New York University Press 2019). Jenny will speak about relying on God while raising a family that includes a special needs child. The event will follow current COVID-19 guidelines. There is no cost to attend and guests and all ages are welcome!

Check-In Volunteers

Help is needed. In order to facilitate check in for two services, we need double the teams — three volunteers at EACH service, covering the Commons Lobby and Narthex. Adults and teens (earn service credit). Please see the Sign Up Genius link for vacancies or contact Alison Mackey in the church office at 856.235.1688:

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/8050D48A5AD23A1FC1-help

The church campus will be CLOSED Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day

Thank you, Dave

June 6 will be the last day for interim youth director Dave Fauvell, and final youth group of the season (see page 4). Dave, who teaches photography at Moorestown High School, stepped in to repackage our youth groups following the departure of Dan Wonneberger, and stepped right into a pandemic. Dave and his fiancée Sami Stewart will be getting married June 11th.

Chick Fil-A Spirit Night Monday, June 26 Step by Step Christian Preschool

Creative Teams

The church office is looking for volunteers with an interest in Sunday live stream video production, or skills in newsletter production, graphic design, layout or editing. Contact Jan Martin at 856.235.1688, Ext. 133 or jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org.

Community Shredding Event

The Mission Committee and Tab Group Inc. of West Berlin, NJ, have teamed up to host a community shredding event in FPC Moorestown's parking lot on Saturday, June 5th from 9:00 a.m. - noon.

This fundraising event will benefit FPC Moorestown's mission partners: Haiti Outreach Ministries and Urban Promise International. 100% of the proceeds will go to these ministries. A suggested donation of \$5 per banker's box is encouraged. This is a safe and secure way to dispose of confidential documents. Paper clips and staples are fine. Please no film negatives or x-rays. Questions? Con contact Linda Jagiela at 856.235.1688, Ext. 104 or missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Prayer Opportunities

The Prayer Committee will be at church in the Prayer Chapel on Mondays from 9-10 AM and online on Tuesdays from 9-10 AM. Anyone needing, or wanting to pray for others, are welcome

to join <u>Jim Cole</u> at those times.

Have a prayer request? Please leave them in the Chapel for the prayer team.

If you would like a Letter of Well Wishing mailed, please contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

Live Stream Concert

Spring Choral Concert Sunday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Live Stream ~ Sanctuary Primary-Junior Choir, Choristers, Chapel Choir & Adult Choir! View www.fpcmoorestown.org See our website for more details

West Jersey Chamber Live Stream Concert May 23rd

Did you miss the West Jersey Chamber's final live stream concert, Journeying Together? Visit www.wjcms.org or our church website to view a replay of the concert, which paired spirituals from the African-American and European-American traditions.

Sunday Study: Discipleship

Join Pastor Stuart and Rev. Paul Asciutto for a study of discipleship (9:45 AM). Participants will use the Study Guide for the Discipleship Gospel (\$10). The class began on Sunday, May 23rd and concludes on Aug. 15th. The study will be offered both in-person in Fellowship Hall and virtually via Zoom. Please REGISTER on our online Events page. On May 30 class FOLLOWS the worship service.

Gracism Study in June

Gracism: The Art of Inclusion - A combined virtual study with the Converge Church, will be held Thursday, June 3, 10, 17, 24 from 7-9 p.m. (Zoom). We will read Gracism: The Art of Inclusion. When people deal with color, class or culture in a positive way, that's "gracism." REGISTER and find the Zoom links on our online events page. Books (\$20) available in the church office.

2021 Graduate?

We will honor our grads (virtually) on June 13 for Graduate Recogni-

tion Sunday. Do you know of a 2021 graduate? submit Please of high names



school, college or post-grad graduates from our congregation to Jan Martin in the church office.

CREDO Class Concludes

Pastor Stuart leads this class of young people exploring member-



ship in the church. Students will have NEW MEMBERS | Dinner with Session on June 6th where they will share their

Statements of Faith. New members and their mentors will be welcomed during worship on June 13. Seven young people are participating in the 2021 class.

Welcome Lauren Clark

We are pleased to welcome Lauren Clark, who is assisting our office this summer with VBS prep, registration, family ministries, and office support. Lauren, whom many know from her choir participation, will be a junior at Berklee College of Music in Boston.

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 open the app and select the "Check-In" icon. Tap the service you're viewing. Check in all family members.

> Father's Day Sunday, June 20

5th Sunday May 30

The Worship Committee is planning two outdoor Fifth Sunday worship Weather permitting, services. these blended worship services will be outdoors in the courtyard between the sanctuary and Miller Commons:

- Sunday, May 30th (9:30 AM)
- Sunday, August 29th (9:30 AM)

Please bring a chair, wear a mask and physically distance. There will be no Sunday School. Please checkin for 5th Sundays OUTSIDE in the walkway leading to the courtyard between the sanctuary and Miller Commons NOT inside in Miller Commons. NOTE: The Discipleship Study class will be held AFTER the 5th Sunday worship.

Groups Using the Building

All meetings in the building must be cleared through the church office, and abide by COVID-19 health protocols. Entry to the building is through the glass doors by Miller Commons. Please contact the office at 856.235.1688.

UrbanPromise Camp

UrbanPromise is getting ready for summer camp, and needs your help. Would you consider purchasing an item or two to help them defer the cost of supplies? Go to https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/10c0c4fa9ad22a1f58-urban sign up to get the items needed for camp. Thank you.

Missions Book Club

Monday, June 14 (Zoom)





Our youth director search committee is interviewing candidates

THANK YOU to our children's Sunday School and kids groups teachers for this year August 2020-May 2021:

Holly Asciutto
Philip Jagiela
Joann Nawrocki
Rachel Scarborough
Leslie Spencer
Tamara Trzeciak

Youth Group Ends June 6th

Please remember that youth group next week (Sunday, June 6th) is our final one of the season, and begins at **5:30 p.m.** in Miller Commons.

Students grade 7–12 are meeting together for youth group in person for time with peers, worship, learning, and fellowship. Please wear a mask. If you like, come at 7:45 PM for our small group time. If you have questions please reach out to <u>Dave Fauvell</u>.

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

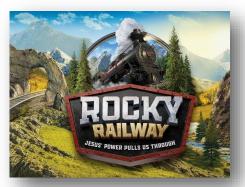
For Families and Youth:

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 (firm)*

JUST TWO MORE WEEKS REMAIN for registration for the Rocky Railway Vacation Bible School! 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. Adult leaders are needed.
- ♦ 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.
- Please reach out with any questions to 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.org fpcmoorestown.org or 856-235-1688, Ext. 116. She is excited to talk with you!