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

Peter Jonescu Interim Director of Congregational Ministries pjonescu@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 FPC



#### First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

### May 9-16, 2021

# Way of the Week 22

- **22. REST & REFLECT.** Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.
- On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation. (Genesis 2: 2, 3)
- Then Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath. (Mark 2: 27)
- This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "Only in returning to me and resting in me will you be saved. In quietness and confidence is your strength. But you would have none of it. (Isaiah 30: 15)

**Ideas for Action:** Can you make your Sunday more of a Sabbath day of rest for you and your family? Connect with God using worship music. Unplug from the devices for part or all of the day. Seek the joy of the Lord in Creation. Eat a meal together. Be silent with God and pray. Prioritize wholeness and rejuvenation in Christ.

# **Officers Elected at Congregational Meeting**

At a Special Meeting of the Congregation May 2, 2021 held via Zoom, the congregation approved the following slate of incoming officers who will be serving their church.

#### **Elders (Session)**

Paul Booker, Leonard Fitts, Kristen Perkowski, Joyce Peacock (2-yr term), Sarah Rotter, Gil Warren, Jim Wiggans, Merritt Wikle

#### Deacons

Alice Conley, Kourtney de la Cruz, Steve Drzaszcz, Janet D'Angelo, Sarah Harper, Gail Sorin, Sharon Uibel, Susan Winner

Trustees Bill Conner, Rich Corbin, Paul Lewis

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#### Farewell and Best Wishes

June 6 will be the last day for **Dave Fauvell**, our interim youth director. Dave, who teaches photography at Moorestown HS, ably stepped in to repackage our youth groups following the departure of Dan Wonneberger, and we are very grateful. Dave stepped right into a pandemic! Dave and his fiancée Sami Stewart are getting married June 11th.

#### **Check-In Volunteers**

In order to facilitate check in for two services, we need double the help with check-in volunteers. We need three volunteers at EACH service, with two volunteers stationed in the Commons Lobby and one in the narthex for mobility issues. Teens and adults are welcome. TEENS: earn service credit! Help is needed. Please see the Sign Up Genius link for vacancies or contact the church office 856.235.1688:

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



# Coming May 9-23: Virtual Mission Fair

The Great Commission: Missionopoly

Get ready to take a virtual trip around the world with this interactive mission fair, which takes you around the globe from the comfort of your home. Information bags and game pieces 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.

Learn more on our Event page and website.

# Support our Preschool

Make time to swing by the <u>Chick Fil A Centerton Square</u> to support our Preschool for two summer Spirit Nights. *Be sure to mention the Preschool in the restaurant, carry out or drive-in so we get credit!* 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Centerton Square location in Mount Laurel:

- Wednesday, May 26
- Wednesday, June 30

#### **Creative Teams**

The church office is looking for someone to assist with periodic art work in <u>Canva.com</u> to correlate with each sermon series. Work is all done online.

We are also looking for volunteers with skills in newsletter production, graphic design, layout or editing, as well as an interest in live stream video production. Contact Jan Martin at 856.235.1688, Ext. 133 or jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org.

#### 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

#### Fellowship & Prayer Breakfast Walk

Calling Young, old, and in between! Singles, couples and families! Join the Prayer Team for a brief Fellowship &Prayer Continental Breakfast and prayer time together (bring your mask), followed by a prayer walk in our communities:

- When: Saturday, May 15th
- Meet: Van Camp Porch
- Time: Breakfast 9-9:45 am
- Walk or drive: 10 am to ??? (your schedule)
- Where: Main Street Businesses/Schools/ Neighborhoods

Questions? Contact Joyce Peacock at jkpeac@comcast.net.

#### Sunday Study: Discipleship

Join Pastor Stuart and Rev. Paul Asciutto for a Sunday study of discipleship (9:45 am). Participants will use the companion Study Guide for the Discipleship Gospel (\$10). The class begins on Sunday, May 23rd and concludes on August 15th. The study will be offered both in-person in Fellowship Hall A and virtually via Zoom. Masks are required on campus. Please REGISTER on our <u>online</u> <u>Events page</u> (blue-green oval).

#### **Gracism Study in June**

Gracism: The Art of Inclusion – A virtual study with the Converge Church, will be held Thursday, June 3, 10, 17, 24 from 7-9 p.m. (Zoom). FPC Moorestown and the Converge Church, a multicultural congregation in Moorestown, join to read Gracism: The Art of Inclusion by David Anderson. When people deal with color, class or culture in a negative way, that's racism. When you look at color, class and culture in a positive way, that's "gracism." REGISTER on our online events page. For info visit: www.embracegracism.com..

#### **Missionwares Sale**

We're spring cleaning! Missionwares yard sale will be held outside on **Sunday, May 16** and items are discounted to sell! Watch for details soon.

#### Live Stream Choir Concert

SAVE THE DATE FPC Moorestown Choral Concert Sunday, June 6 at 7:30 p.m. Live stream ~ Sanctuary All vocal choirs View www.fpcmoorestown.org

#### **Pastor Away**

Pastor Spencer will be away May 11 -17 as he heads to California to officiate the wedding of Kelly LePenske and Joey Sponseller on May 15th. He's promised to take pictures! Dr. Dick Herman will be assisting with pastoral care needs. For concerns please contact Jan Martin in the church office.

#### 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 family

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

#### West Jersey Chamber Live Stream Concert May 23rd

WJCMS closes its 2020–21 season with *Journeying Together*, a free live stream concert on **Sunday**, **May 23 at 7:30 p.m. ET.** The West Jersey Chamber Chorale pairs spirituals from the African-American and European-American traditions of the 1860s. Explore the commonalities that led both communities on a journey to heaven. Visit <u>www.wjcms.org</u> or our church website at concert time.



#### 5th Sunday May 30

The Worship Committee is planning two outdoor Fifth Sunday worship services. Weather permitting, these blended worship services will be outdoors in the courtyard between the sanctuary and Miller Commons at 9:30 a.m.:

- Sunday, May 30th
- Sunday, August 29th

Please bring your own chair, wear a mask and physically distance. There will be no Sunday School. Please check-in for 5th Sundays OUTSIDE in the driveway leading to the courtyard between the sanctuary and Miller Commons. **NEW: Check-in for 5th Sunday services will be a self-check in on your smart phone.** 

#### **Groups Using the Building**

A reminder that all meetings in the building must be cleared through church office, and abide by health protocols for safe gatherings. Only select rooms in the church are available. All participants to be masked and submit COVID-19 health forms. Physical distancing is required and entry to the building is through the glass doors by Miller Commons. Please contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

#### **Staff Searches**

Searches are ongoing by the Youth Director Search Committee and APNC for an Associate Pastor. Please keep these teams in your prayers as their work continues to identify and interview candidates.





# Sunday School K-6th meets 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

End of Year Parties! Kingdom Kids Wednesday, May 12 Crossing Zone Wednesday, May 19 (during regular group meeting times)

Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) and Crossing Zone (grades 4-6th) meet on Wednesday, May 12th. 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

⇒ Crossing Zone: 6:30-7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

## Sundays: In-Person Youth Group

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. <u>Please fill out the health form</u> 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 questions please reach out to <u>Dave Fauvell</u>. Dave's last Sunday with us will be **Sunday**, **June 6**, as he and Sami Stewart will be married. We'll miss you, Dave!

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 I: 15

For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, ×116 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.
- Please reach out with any questions to 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!

