First Presbyterian Church 101 Bridgeboro Road MAIL: PO Box 868 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

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 health 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



July 18-Aug. 1, 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown





Way of the Week 7 (July 18-24)

- 7. CELEBRATE OUR UNITY, SAVOR OUR DIVERSITY. Thank God that, like parts of the human body, we're not all the same. Be open to learn from others, regardless of their age, background, experience, or tenure with our church. We make better decisions and grow as people when we consider multiple perspectives. Listen with curiosity to others and consider how to use their ideas.
 - Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us. Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. (Romans 12: 3-5)

Ideas for Action: Seek out someone from a different background, culture or race and meet three or four times to get to know their lives and stories. Pray with them for racial and social healing.

Way of the Week 8 (July 25-August I)

- 8. JUMP IN. Life is full of unexpected problems and needs, large and small. Pay attention to moments when God calls you to action, no matter how ordinary or extraordinary the situation may be. See "disruptions" as invitations to share Christ's love. Write a note. Visit the sick or the grieving. Share a meal.
 - Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. (1 John 3: 18)

Ideas for Action: Practice one of the actions listed in this week's description: Write a note, visit someone who lives alone, and/or share a meal.

Page 2

PO Box 868

Effective June 2021, post office regulations require mail for the church to be addressed to the **PO Box 868** mailing address (no periods). The physical location of the church and Step by Step Christian Preschool remains 101 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Both addresses may appear on mailed items (PO Box listed first please).

Sunday Study: Discipleship

The Sunday morning Discipleship class led by Stuart Spencer, Rev. Paul Asciutto and Peter Jonescu at 9:45 a.m. concludes **Aug. 15th**. Participants are using the Study Guide for the Discipleship Gospel (\$10). The study is offered both inperson in Fellowship Hall and virtually via Zoom.

Please pray for our searches for an Associate Pastor and Youth Director.

Audio Visual Ministry

The Audio Visual team is looking for several high school, adult or retired volunteers to learn our multi-camera system and audio for the Sunday morning live stream worship. Worship broadcasts live from the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. and at 11:00 a.m. from Miller Commons. We will train you on this exciting new technology; vMix software, camera operation and audio. You will serve in a rotation and therefore just be needed every few weeks or so. Sign up on our event page or contact Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com.

Fifth Sunday August 29

The Worship Committee invites all to enjoy a combined worship service on **Sunday, August 29th** for our joint Fifth Sunday event. Worship will be held at **9:30 a.m.** in the outside courtyard by the Commons Lobby. Please bring a chair.

Guest Preacher

On **Sunday, August 1** we warmly welcome Rev. Anthony Maimone as our guest preacher. Rev. Maimone actively ministers to our neighbors at the ACTS/Evergreens community as its full-time chaplain. He will preach at both services.

Pastor Time Away

Pastor Spencer will be on vacation with his family **August 9-23**, returning to the office Tuesday, August 24. For pastoral care and concerns during this time, please contact the church office at (856) 235-1688 or Jan Martin at jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org.



Outdoor Hymnsings REMAINING DATES: August 4, September 1

Join your church family as we gather safely outdoors to sing God's praises and offer our prayers. On the first Wednesday evening of July, August and September at 7:00 p.m. we'll meet in the courtyard between the Commons Lobby and the main parking lot. Bring your chair. Our Hymnsing includes lots of singing with a reflection on our Way of the Week and a time to share prayer requests with prayer. If you've been vaccinated you need not wear a mask. However, we'll respect anyone who chooses to do so. In the event of rain, it will be held **in Miller Commons.** How wonderful to gather together to ask the Lord's blessing!

Deacons' Toiletry Drive

The Deacons are holding a Toiletry Drive for St. Matthew's Ministerium Food Pantry through September. Please see our event page or website for a <u>listing of suggested items</u>. Please return items to the shopping cart in the Commons Lobby. Thank you in advance for your donations! Contact Linda Jagiela at 267.275.7582 cell/text, <u>missions@fpcmoorestown.org</u>, or the church office at 856.235.1688.



Missions Book Club MONDAY, July 26 (Zoom, 6 pm, moved from July 30)

Join us for our July book discussion: The Simple Faith of Mister Rog- MISTER ers by Amy Hol- ROGERS lingsworth. Note this is a Friday. To participate in the Zoom call:



- Log on to: www.zoom.com
- Meeting ID: 858 1209 6236
- Passcode: 040982

Session for July

The July Session meeting for Tuesday, July 27 will be held in person in Fellowship Hall (and also via Zoom). Masks are optional.

Best Wishes Sam

The congregation joins in saying

farewell to music intern Sam Scheibe, who will pursue graduate studies in Scotland beginning in the fall. Sam, an



accomplished vocalist and musician who graduated this past May from Westminster Choir College, has assisted our music program in multiple capacities, including directing, composing, performing, accompanying and as music intern for the past three years. God's blessings to you, Sam.

<u>**\$ummer Reminder**</u>

Please remember to stay current with your pledge during the summer months, either through electronic giving or by mailing your check to the office.

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, is welcome to join Jim Cole at those times. Have a prayer request? Please leave them in the Chapel for the prayer team. Would you like a Letter of Well Wishing mailed? Please contact Alison in the church office at 856.235.1688.

Take a Trip to Israel

Ruth Stotsenburg is leading a guided tour from Nov. 21- Dec. 4 to Israel. This is an extraordinary tour, going north into Galilee, Golan, four days in Jerusalem, then down into the wilderness. If you've been before, it's worth going again. If you're interested in attending, call Ruth Stotsenburg at 856-220-1602 or rstots@gmail.com, or Pam Engle pam@pamengle.com or (609) 332-7513. Limit 25. See our event page!

Check-In Volunteers

Help is greatly needed. In order to facilitate check in for two services, we need two volunteers at each service, to cover the Commons Lobby and Narthex. Adults and teens are welcome. 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

Watching from Home?

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.

Ministry Fair: September 12

The Ministry Fair has been an annual event where different church ministries have table displays to educate the congregation about their goals and to gain new participants. As in recent years, the Ministry Fair centers around four key practices that enliven our faith: Worship, Connect, Serve, and Devote. If your group would like to display at this year's Ministry Fair, please contact Earl Gage in the office at (856) 235-1688, x106 or egage@fpcmoorestown.org by Aug. 21. The Ministry Fair will be in Fellowship Hall between services on Sept. 12. How is God inviting you to take your next step of faith? How will you Worship, Connect, Serve and Devote? This year, Sept. 12 also marks the 133rd Birthday of our church's founding. Celebrate with the gift of participation.

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Prayer Retreat October 19-22, 2021 Holy Cross Monastery (NY)

Adult Spiritual Formation

Coming Sept. 15th: The Engagement Project, a 10-week study which will meet Wednesday evenings at the church. When we draw near to God and contemplate His divine nature, it exposes us, as it did Isaiah. But it also awakens us to His Truth, which transforms us and calls us to engage the world around us. After we engage, we seek to restore the Truth of God in all areas of life. For information contact Jim Cole at 856-296-5732 or jamescole7@comcast.net. Watch for registration information later this summer. Invite your friends!



Stay cool this summer! We miss you ...

Color Wars!

<u>Color Wars (AKA Paint Wars)</u> for grades 4-6 (includes those entering 4th grade in the fall plus those entering 7th grade, invited back for one last hurrah!), outside at church. See our website and event page for the scoop! Wear a white tee shirt, old sneakers, shorts to get stained and goggles if you have them! This will be a FUN event BUT messy!! We will have hoses available to rinse off afterwards so remember to bring TWO towels.



Wednesday, July 21 ~ 6:30-8:00 p.m.

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, ×116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth: The search is underway for a new Youth Director!



