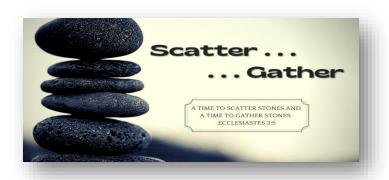


101 Bridgeboro Road ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● fpcmoorestown.org Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor / Head of Staff Peter Jonescu, Interim Director of Congregational Ministries



Sunday, August 22, 2021 ~ Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship (Miller Commons)

Way of the Week

12. OWN OUR CHURCH. The work of the Church isn't defined by Pastors and staff alone. It comes from each member actively participating in the life of Jesus Christ. Claim ownership of FPC Moorestown's mission, programs, and property. Each is an expression of how God is working among us. Support others. Be informed. Volunteer for a new role. Live like you're the Church – because you are!

"All of you together are Christ's Body, and each of you is a part of it." (I Corinthians 12:27)

<u>Ideas for Action</u>: Spend a few minutes on our website to learn about some aspect of our ministry or mission that's new or unknown to you. Fuel your curiosity, and consider getting involved in an area of ministry that brings you joy!

Welcome and Work of God's People

Eric Davis

Songs of Praise

Worship Team

This is Amazing Grace Great I Am

Prayer of Confession

Eric Davis

Holy God, hear our prayer:

For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;

For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us;

For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist;

For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us;

We pray for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, and the hope that Your grace awaits us. Through Christ, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Eric Davis

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure; and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and, thus, freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen.

Offertory Peter Jonescu

Your giving dramatically impacts the ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Your tithes and offerings allow us to fully support church operations and our work in the world. Our ministry continues every day. Those attending in person may leave an offering in the box by the doors. Electronic giving is here to stay! Sign up for this simple, secure <u>automatic withdrawal</u>. Online gifts may also be made from the Church Center app on your smart phone.

Praise Song Worship Team

Blessed Hope Martin Bass

Sermon Peter Jonescu

All the Chicks in the Nest

Scripture Text: <u>Isaiah 43:1-7 (NLT)</u> Sermon Series: Scatter...Gather

Closing Song Worship Team

Mighty to Save

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer Peter Jonescu

Benediction and Going Forth Peter Jonescu

11:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Audio Technician: Taylor Adair
Camera: Jonathan Nawrocki
Visuals: Alice Conley

Worship Team: Martin Bass-Guitar; Christine Bass-Keys; Rebecca Neindorff-Piano; Don Stevens-

Bass; Barry Overton-Drums

Vocals: Michelle Davis

Flower Arrangers: Debbie Heller and Carol Benner

Usher: Dave Barr Trustee Greeter: TBD

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birth of Brynn Kennedy to Greg and Jenna Cole.

Seven Essential Elements of the Gospel:

- 1. God's Kingdom is here.
- 2. Jesus is the Christ.
- 3. Jesus died for our sins.
- 4. Jesus was resurrected.
- 5. We repent of sin.
- 6. We believe the Gospel.
- 7. We follow Jesus.

The Definition of the Gospel: "The gospel is this: the Kingdom of God has come through Jesus of Nazareth. He is Christ, the King, God's one and only Son. He died on the cross for our sins, was buried, and was resurrected on the third day according to the Scriptures. In His great love and by His amazing grace, God, our Father saves everyone who repents of their sins, believes the gospel, and follows Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. When King Jesus returns on the last day, everyone who followed Him will enter the eternal kingdom of God."

Check-ins: Check-in has shifted to a <u>self-check in only</u> on your smart phone (no QR code to swipe). Volunteers remain available to assist. Please remember to check in from home when watching the live stream.

Session has called a <u>Special Meeting of the Congregation</u> for Sunday, August 29, 2021 for the purpose of voting on the call of Rev. Wes Allen as our Associate Pastor. Since it is a fifth Sunday, we'll gather in our Sanctuary for one Service at 9:30 a.m. when Wes will preach. The Meeting begins at the close of worship. The Worship Service and the Meeting will be live streamed. We'll provide a Zoom link with an option to vote for church members who'd prefer to stay at home.

In addition to considering the terms of call, we'll also act on a request from Session to amend our By-Laws to allow virtual meetings. Since the start of the pandemic, we've held four such meetings, including our Annual Meeting in February of this year. After we've worshipped and voted, we're planning a reception for the Allens outside. Do plan to join us for this momentous morning!

BYO Picnic: 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – Plan to stay after the Congregational Meeting for a Bring-your-own Picnic lunch. The Deacons and Missions will provide games, activities, challenges, and some cold drinks and treats. Wear comfortable clothes, and bring chairs or a blanket for your family. Rain or shine!

Away from Church: Pastor Spencer and his family are in Avalon from August 11-24. In his absence, Dr. Dick Herman will be available for pastoral care. Contact Jan Martin in the church office if you are in need of care. While there, Stuart preaches at the Wells Memorial Presbyterian Church, http://www.wellspresbyterian.org/, 126 Ninth St., Avalon, NJ. The worship service is at 10:00 a.m.

Summer Offering Reminder: Please remember to stay current with your Pledge during the summer months, either through electronic giving or by mailing your check to the office.

P. O. Box Address: Effective June 2021, Post Office regulations stipulate that mail must be addressed to our **P. O. Box 868**. The street address 101 Bridgeboro Road may also appear on the address as this will be required for deliveries, event locations, etc. Please list the P. O. Box address first.

Outdoor Hymnsing: Join your Church Family as we gather safely outdoors to sing God's praises and offer our prayers. On **September 1** at **7:00 p.m.**, we'll meet in the courtyard (between the Commons Lobby and main parking lot). Bring your chair(s). Our Hymnsing includes lots of singing with a reflection on our Way of the Week and a time to share prayer requests. You need not wear a mask.

<u>The Engagement Project</u> – Coming Sept. 15: This 10-week study 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. 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. Sign up online on our Events page.

Deacons' Toiletry Drive: Visit our <u>online event page</u> for information about the Toiletries Drive to support the Moorestown Ministerium Food Pantry, which continues through September.

<u>Fall Prayer Retreat</u>, October 19–22: Pastor Spencer leads a four-day, three-night retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, an Episcopal community of faith. Join members from FPCM and friends from other churches for a study of the Lord's Prayer and lots of time for rest, reflection and renewal. See our Events page for additional details.

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