First Presbyterian Church
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Moorestown, NJ 08057
fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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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:

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 <a href="https://www.fpcmoorestown.org">www.fpcmoorestown.org</a> or <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a> or <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>.

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

imartin@fbcmoorestown.org

Are you receiving our Friday
e-blast with announcements,
Connections and upcoming
events? If not, contact the
church office.

856-235-1688, Ext. 133



# Connections FP



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

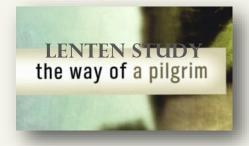
February 20-26, 2022



#### Way of the Week 13 (February 20-26)

**13. OPEN DOORS FOR OTHERS TO LEAD.** Encourage others to step into leadership by sharing responsibilities and mentoring. Let go of the jobs you've always done and allow new leaders to emerge. Remember that our youth and young adults are not solely the future of our church but are vitally important for our *present*.

**Ideas for Action:** As you consider whatever it is that you do regularly here, keep a look out for a younger person or a new member to invite to join you in the task. If the job requires training or coaching, offer it. Look to let go and hand off.



#### **Lenten Book Study**

THIS YEAR our Lenten small group study will be reading *The Way of A Pilgrim* by R.M. French. Sign ups opened February 13th in the Commons Lobby and online. Pick the day that works best for you! Books may be purchased online or through the church office for \$11.00. If you'd like to lead or host a group, please contact Wes Allen or Alison Mackey in the church office (856.235.1688) and they'll sign you up!

Sign up for Lenten Groups online, at church or with the church office

#### **NEW: Jesus Prayer (Zoom)**

Sign up for a Jesus Prayer study on Zoom with Pastor Stuart about this special prayer, centerpiece of our Lenten study. Series will be held Thursdays in Lent March 3-April 7 from 6:30-7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

#### To join us via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/81934312431? pwd=VVY4YnRnRm42UDFFZmQze kdxbXBmZz09

**Meeting ID:** 819 3431 2431

**Passcode:** 819740

#### **Protocols**

#### **Worship Services**

Masks required for all persons and singers. Physical distancing encouraged in both worship spaces. No congregational singing.

#### **Indoor Meetings**

Masks required for all persons in the building, regardless of vaccination status. Groups welcome to meet at church or virtually. No food served indoors.

#### Per Capita

This month look for mailed information regarding our annual Per Capita giving. As Presbyterians, we are a connectional church. This assessment is a "per member" contribution of \$38.75 per member above one's pledge that each church pays annually to support the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery. Congregation members are asked to help provide the \$38.75 for themselves and/or their member children (if able). Or you may submit an "opt-out" request if you do NOT wish this portion to be paid. You must alert the church office. Your response and support is most appreciated and will assist the church in paying this assessment. For questions please call Norman in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 112.



#### **Lent Programming Guide**

Copies of our 2022 Lent Programming Guide are available at church and <u>online</u>, detailing the events for this meaningful Lent and Easter season. Download or pick up your copy today.

#### **Your Service Pledge**

Our church year is underway. Are you looking to get involved? Is there something new you'd like to try? Do you want to serve as an usher, prepare snacks for VBS or be a trustee? Or maybe you'd rather stuff envelopes, or design flyers? Volunteers are the lifeblood of the church. Fill out our new online Service Pledge. There are countless ways to make an impact and utilize your skills for the glory of God. Use the convenient QR code in the contemporary service. Kindly complete by February 28.

- Stewardship & Nominations
Committees

### **Adult Spiritual Formation**

Lorenzo Eagles leads a Sunday morning Adult Spiritual Formation class from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Come participate in this Discovery Bible Study adult class, which is open to those 7th grade and older.

#### The Four Gospels

Seminary intern Paul Savage leads a four-week study on The Four Gospels through February 27th. The class meets from 9:45-10:45 am in Room 8, and is accessible via Zoom or in person.

FIND the Zoom links for both events online on our event page and Adult Spiritual Formation page of our website www.fpcmoorestown.org.

#### The Season of Lent

Ash Wednesday: March 2
First Sunday in Lent: March 6

The Journey of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday March 2. That day, we will be holding a **Drive Through Ashes** event at 12 noon. Simply drive into the main parking lot and be safely greeted for prayer and, if desired, the imposition of ashes. Please wear masks. **Ash Wednesday Worship** will be that evening at 7:00 p.m., led by intern Paul Savage.

<u>Lent-in-a-Bag</u> will be available for our families with family activities for this season. Contact Holly Asciutto at 856.235.1688, Ext. 116 (see page 4).

#### **Boards of the Church**

The Nominations Committee is hard at work staffing the three Boards of the church: Elders, Deacons and Trustees. Is God calling you to serve? What ministry area calls to you? Please pray about where you may "join hands." Look for an online sign up.

#### **Check in to Church**

Using the Church Center app on your phone, please "check in to church" each Sunday you're in person or home watching the live stream. This simple automated check-in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and provides accurate records for the Membership Committee, staff and member care. Download the app on your phone from the App Store or Google Play. Need help? Please see the volunteer in the narthex or at the desk.

# Spring ALPHA Series Visit our event page to learn more; community welcome

#### **Power of Prayer**

Sunday mornings following both worship services a member of the Prayer Team and an elder will be in the Prayer Chapel for about 10 minutes to greet anyone with a prayer request. You're encouraged to take a couple minutes to stop by.

**NEW:** Submit an online prayer request to the Prayer Committee. Visit the new prayer page on the website at <a href="https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer">https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/prayer</a> to share your prayer request with the prayer team.

## Camp Johnsonburg Summer Camp

Registration is NOW OPEN for the wonderful summer camps of Camp Johnsonburg, a Presbyterian camp and retreat center. Visit www.campjburg.org/summer-

camp. There are programs for 1st through 5th graders, 6th through 8th graders, and 9th through 12th graders. Pick yours! A handful of kids from Moorestown are already signed up for July 31-Aug.5! Different price tiers and weeks are available to make camp as accessible to as many children as possible. There is also a discount for more than one child. At Camp Jburg, kids have an opportunity to make friends, have fun, and most importantly learn about Jesus Christ and God's love for them. Parents: learn about flexible payment options and deferred payments too. It will be a summer your kids will not forget! Reach out to Wes Allen with any questions.

# Have you noticed someone missing from church? Give them a call or visit.

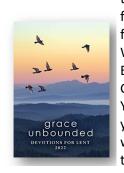
## Preschool Registration, Open House

Registration is underway for 2022-23 preschool classes. Applications on our website. Classes begin in September 2022 and are available for 2 ½ year olds, 3-year olds, and Pre-K students. Come to an Open House on Tuesday, March 1 from 7-8 p.m. and meet us in person.

April 10 (Palm Sunday)
One Great Hour
of Sharing offering

## Lent Devotional: Grace Unbounded

As a beautiful companion piece to the Lenten study, *Grace Unbounded* provides daily devotions, reflec-



tions and prayers for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter, from the Gospel of Luke. You can purchase your copy online with Amazon, or through the church office,

which has a limited quantity for \$3.00. Please reach out to Alison Mackey at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113 to receive your copy.

#### **Easter Flower Orders**

Orders for colorful Easter flowers will be taken March 20, March 27 and April 3. Order online and mail in your payment, or submit payment and your order form in the offering box following worship. Flowers are \$15 each and will be assorted spring varieties. Flowers may be picked up after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Easter Sunday April 17th. Watch for order forms in March.

#### Sock It To Me

Cold, wet feet add to the misery of the homeless. Please help bring some relief! Presbyterian Women are collecting white cotton socks for the Christian Caring Center. A collection box

will be located in the Commons Lobby through Easter.

Church campus is closed for Presidents Day February 21



### Save The Date: Vacation Bible School June 27-July 1, 2022



**NEW!** Help support Step by Step by purchasing delicious Stock's Pound Cakes for you, family and friends.

Cakes are \$16 and six delicious varieties! Return order form by March 3.

Contact Amy Delgado at adelgado@fpcmoorestown.org.



At youth group our middle schoolers and high schoolers are diving into the Book of Mark.

Kingdom Kids: Grades K-3 Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm Crossing Zone: Grades 4-6 Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm Middle School: Grades 7-8 Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm High School: Grades 9-12 Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

### Sermon Series Memory Verse

And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (I Peter 5: 5)

For Families and Children: **Holly Asciutto** 856-235-1688, x116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

For Families and Youth: The search is underway for a new youth director

#### **Lent-in-a-Bag for Families**

Lent is the season before Easter where we try to "journey" with Jesus. We invite families to take a Lent Bag and follow weekly instructions for a meaningful experience during this most holy of times. On the back of the outer bag is an overview of the activities for the seven weeks leading up to Easter. Week 1 should start the week of Ash Wednesday (March 2).



WHEN AND WHERE: The Lent-in-a-bag devotion will be available beginning Sunday, February 27th in the Commons Lobby, and on Ash Wednesday, March 2nd at the Drive Through Ashes in the parking lot at 12 noon.

**Lent-in-a-bag** is meant to equip families to help have conversation and prayer at home. There are specific connections with the Jesus Storybook Bible listed but please use whatever version/ translation of the Scripture is best for your family. Inside each bag are seven individual bags marked weeks 1-6 and "Holy Week". Choose one day a

week to gather with your family, take out that week's devotional and contents, and follow the detailed instructions. (Sometimes there is a bonus at the end of the devotions for older children).

Also, we have included a Lenten Fish Box for "One Great Hour of Sharing" as a means of charitable, monetary collections and giving during Lent (see insert with the box). Completed fish boxes will be collected during both Palm Sunday services on April 10th.

For questions contact Holly Asciutto at 856.235.1688, x116 or hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.

On Wednesday, March 2, Ash Wednesday, there will be no Kingdom Kids or Crossing Zone so families may worship together. Middle School Youth Group meets at the regular time and plans to attend worship. Contact Joel Krott for choir rehearsal schedules.