

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
MAIL: PO Box 868
Moorestown, NJ 08057
fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
wallen@fpcmoorestown.org

**Worship. Connect.
Serve. Devote.**

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

9:00 AM Traditional
10:30 AM Contemporary
9:30 AM 5th Sunday Blended Worship

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

"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
Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

June 26-July 9, 2022

IT IS OFFICIAL...the 2022 Strawberry Festival was a HUGE success!



We were fortunate that the Lord blessed us with beautiful weather to ensure that our first post-pandemic Strawberry Festival was the best one yet! The glorious return of this event brought thousands of people from our congregation, Moorestown, and nearby communities. While it's difficult to tell for sure, we believe we had over 4,000 people attend! If you weren't there, *we missed you*, and hope you can come next year. Some highlights of the night were long lines of kids ready to bounce on an inflatable or get their face painted, the Missions food tent working so hard to feed the crowd and raising \$1,664 to donate to Haiti Outreach Ministries, the Community Band on the main lawn, and Jonathan Miller's rocking debut with the Trophy Husbands band!

We are SO grateful for those members of our congregation who volunteered. It's because of YOU this event went so smoothly and many people felt welcomed to our church. From donating cakes to washing and hulling strawberries to working on the night of the event to staying way past a shift time to wash a sink full of dishes (Vicky Terry!!) we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You made our jobs easier and you are ALL appreciated.

So many of our Ways come to mind when planning an event of this magnitude: *Speak the Truth With Love ... Jump In ... Join Hands ... Own Our Church ... Welcome Change Show Who You Really Are.*

Truthfully, it was a struggle to get volunteers to staff all the stations needed as well as to account for the required number of cakes. We lost many volunteers who were normally present, due to COVID caution, moves, family trips, or no longer being able to serve. We were only halfway to our goal of 300 cakes up until 3 days before the event, so we bombarded you with emails through one committee or another to donate cakes. (Which then looked ridiculous because our congregation went above and beyond, so that we had an over abundance of cakes!) Unfortunately, because it was late in the week, we had no idea that people would bring MORE than they had signed up for or brought cakes they had not signed up for at all because of our panicked begging! We appreciate all that was donated and luckily, were able to give the leftover cakes to Feeding 5000, Moorestown Police Department, the local Buy Nothing group and our own coffee hour table, which was a blessing for each recipient. While that was a lovely gesture, the time, money and resources expended to ensure there were sufficient cakes could have gone elsewhere in the critical days leading up to the event.

We ask you to consider the Ways listed above and this verse when it comes to hosting this event again next year, and in the years to come: *"Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that he has given you."* (Deuteronomy 16:17 ESV)

Please consider how you can be of service next year. If you are able to physically volunteer the night of the event, please do so. If you are unable to serve on that night, please consider coming to hull strawberries the day before, help set up the day of or by donating cakes-homemade, store bought, or money towards the purchase of what's needed. We'll be planning early this year, so the earlier you can make a commitment, the better! We are excited to have each of you involved in helping us make the 2023 Strawberry Festival THE BEST EVER. **Save the Date: Friday, June 2, 2023!**

We thank you again for a successful night of food, fun and Strawberry-tastic fellowship!

Kristen Perkowski, Laurie Lamonica, Jen Allen and April Butler

5th SUNDAY
Sunday, July 31
9:30 a.m. blended worship
OUTDOOR WORSHIP
Sanctuary Courtyard
Please bring a chair. No nursery care provided on 5th Sundays.

NEW: Prayer on the Porch

Join the Prayer Committee for a time of fellowship and prayer in the cool of the evening for "Wednesday Evening Prayer on the Porch." Starts on June 22 at 7:00 p.m., and continues on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays this summer. Remaining dates:

- ◆ July 13
- ◆ July 27
- ◆ August 10
- ◆ August 24

"...and they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day." Gen. 3

For information contact Pam Engle at pam@pamengle.com.

Youth Ministry

Please pray for God's provision of a new youth director for our youth ministry.

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 has replaced the Friendship sign-in pads and provides accurate records for the Membership team, staff and pastoral care. Just download the app on your phone. Need help? Please see the volunteer at check-in. **Thank you** to our deacons for helping with this welcoming ministry. Download the [Church Center app](#) from your App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android).

Happy Birthday, America

The church campus will be CLOSED Monday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.

Missions Collections

Please help us help others. We are collecting through the **end of June**:

- ◆ **Food:** We need rice, boxed milk, and proteins for the Blessing Box
- ◆ **Cleaning supplies and paper products:** Collecting for the Moorestown Ministerium's food pantry
- ◆ **School supplies and sports equipment:** For Malawi Ministries
- ◆ **Adult and Children's books:** For Love Driven Ministry's new Community library

Mission India

We will be going on a vision trip to India February 6-18, 2023. Email Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org if you have an interest. The Honduras mission trip has been

Legacy Giving

"Live Forward. Give Forward."

Bequests to the church, large and small, benefit our programs, services, ministries, and grounds and property, and make an enduring statement of faith for God's work here on earth. A legacy speaks about how we lived; about the things that matter to us. 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. If you feel called to include the church in your estate giving plan, please contact the church office at 856.235.1688.

⇒ PLEASE VISIT our [event page online](#) on our website and [watch the Legacy Giving video](#).

General Assembly 2022

First-ever hybrid Assembly

Visit <https://ga-pcusa.org/> to learn more about significant matters to be discussed at the 225th General Assembly (2022) in Louisville, KY. **Becca Neindorff** is on-site as a member of the Theology, Worship and Education Committee which meets June 20-22: learn more at [TWE Committee](#). Other committees will be meeting June 23-July 2.

The entire General Assembly will be meeting online July 5-9. Review the overtures and reports under consideration by the assembly. To follow along, visit www.pc-biz.org for links. For information visit <https://oga.pcusa.org/section/ga/ga/>.

Summer Giving

During summer months when you may be attending church less frequently, please remember to stay current with your pledge through electronic giving, plate offerings or by mailing your check to the office. For summer gifts of stock, please call the church office.

Summer Worship Hours

June 5-September 4

(ends Labor Day weekend)

9:00 a.m. Traditional

10:30 a.m. Contemporary

Adult Spiritual Formation will meet from 10-11 a.m. Nursery care is provided in Room 12. There is no children's Sunday School in the summer.

Summer "Connections"

Connections prints every two weeks in the summer months. The weekly eblast continues each Friday. Please alert the office if you are not receiving the eblast.

July Session Meeting

Tuesday, July 26

Reports due July 22

Prayer After Worship

Elders who are serving as the beadle for worship (walking the Bible into the sanctuary and leading worship), will remain in the David Room following worship to meet with those requesting prayer.

Joys and Concerns

Email prayer requests, joys and concerns to Pastor Stuart Spencer by **Wednesday 9:00 a.m. at sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org** to be included in the live streamed Thursday Evening Prayer Service.

NEW! 4th Sunday Outdoor Contemporary Worship

Sunday, June 26

Sunday, August 28

10:30 a.m.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Cemetery

Please bring a chair if you wish.

Nursery care provided.

Staff News

Current Step by Step Preschool teacher **Kristi Illum** has assumed additional duties as administrative assistant for the school. Kristi replaces preschool admin **Jonnene Dunne** who has left to pursue other endeavors. Jonnene joined the staff in 2017 and we wish her well. In addition, **Fausto de la Cruz** will no longer be assisting the property team. Fausto has been a great asset and help to us and we will miss him. We wish Fausto, Jonnene and Kristi much luck and blessings.

Save The Date:

Fall Prayer Retreat

October 18-21, 2022

Holy Cross Monastery (NY)

Coffee Hour and Bagel Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to pick up bagels in Maple Shade early Sunday morning, and deliver to the church. Would you be willing to do this once every 6-8 weeks? Bagels are charged to FPC's account so you won't need to pay for them. Please contact [Lissa Herman](mailto:Lissa.Herman@fpcmoorestown.org) (856-745-7357) or [Sue Piper](mailto:Sue.Piper@fpcmoorestown.org) (856-722-0581) to volunteer. Helpers are also needed to assist Chelsea Margerum staff the coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Can you help out on a couple Sundays?

New Sermon Podcasts

NEW: Stay up to date with FPC Moorestown's sermon series by subscribing to our weekly sermon podcast now available on Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Google Podcasts, Spotify and Anchor. Full services continue to be available with video on YouTube and Facebook or by visiting www.fpcmoorestown.org.

New hearing assist units are available in the narthex for worship, concerts and live streamed events

Choir Rehearsals Begin in September

Opportunities are available for all ages and abilities in our music ministry under the leadership of director of music Joel Krott and Bell Choir director Kathy Gunsallus. Come try it this year! Experience our music ministry:

- Adult Choir
- Bell Choir
- Primary Choir (Grades K-1)
- Junior Choir (Grades 2-4)
- Choristers (Grades 5-8)
- Chapel Choir (Grades 9-12)

Fall Inquirers' Class

Newcomers, are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and the Presbyterian faith? Save the date and see our [online event page](#) for a three-part Inquirers Class led by our pastors:

- ◆ Sept. 21: 7-8:30 pm (Zoom)
- ◆ Sept. 24: 9-1 pm (Rm 3-4)
- ◆ Sept. 25 12 noon with Session

FAMILY MINISTRY

Pray for Vacation Bible School: June 27-July 1, 2022



Volunteer for VBS

YES, WE STILL NEED adult volunteers or classroom leaders. Volunteer with a friend, co-worker, or family member while building your faith and relationships. Spend time smiling, laughing, and serving while spreading His message of love to His kids ages 5-12. Contact [Holly Asciutto](#) or [Angie Slane](#) in the church office at 856.235.1688.

We will commission our teachers and volunteers during worship on Sunday, June 26 and pray for them.

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

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago. (Ephesians 2:10)

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

For Families and Youth:
Please pray for God's provision of a new youth director for our youth ministry.

VBS

June 27- July 1 ~ 9:00 am-noon

Children entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade (FALL 2022). *When registering, enter child's current grade for 2021-22.*

Cost: \$20 per child ; \$15 for second child or more

At *Make Waves* VBS, kids will discover what they do today can change the world around them. *Make Waves* is filled with incredible Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, touch, and even taste!

Team building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few activities that help faith *flow* into their world.



We are there. Can't wait to "sea" you!

VBS Week is here and we are "shore" going to have fun. Please note some meetings may have been moved to different areas due to Vacation Bible School, so contact the church office at 856.235.1688.