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

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 <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org</u> or <u>YouTube</u> or <u>Facebook</u>.

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 FP



July 24-Aug. 6, 2022

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

# JOIN Hands

Way of the Week 10 (July 24-30)

**10.** JOIN HANDS. Work as a team. Collaborate with each other, our professional staff, our lay leaders, and our congregants to find the best solutions. Collaboration lightens the load, generates better ideas than individuals working alone, and unleashes the gifts God has given us all.

**Ideas for Action:** Is there some task you're doing at church that you could invite someone to share with you? Think of someone from our church who can help you sort out a challenge or problem you're facing.

#### Way of the Week II (July 31-Aug. 6)

**11. MAKE OTHERS AT HOME HERE.** Warmly welcome newcomers and visitors. Offer your name with a smile. Reach out and greet the person you don't know after worship, during Coffee Hour, in Youth Group or Sunday School. Show a genuine interest in others.

**Ideas for Action:** Look for someone you don't know very well. Invite that person for coffee, a walk or a meal and get to know them. Keep your eyes peeled for the guest or visitor at our church and offer your name and a smile of welcome. Pave the way for new friendships wherever you are.



Sunday, July 31 9:30 a.m. Outdoor Blended Worship Congregational Meeting to follow to elect 1 elder, 1 deacon, 1 trustee

Visit our webpage for current COVID-19 protocols, revised July 17, 2022

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#### 5th SUNDAY Sunday, July 3 I Moved to Miller Commons

9:30 a.m. blended worship
 Congregational Meeting
 General Assembly Update

#### **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 27, August 10, August 24.* 

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

We aspire to be beacons of God's love and truth, growing together in faith and relationship with Jesus Christ.

#### July Session Meeting Tuesday, July 26 (Reports due to church office by 12 noon Friday, July 22)

Potluck BBQ at 5:30 p.m. for elders, deacons and trustees. Information has been emailed along with a Sign Up Genius for RSVP/items to bring. Contact <u>Alison Mackey</u> at 856.235.1688, Ext. 113.

#### **Missions Collections**

- Food: 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

#### **COVID-19 Protocols** Effective July 17, 2022, Session has revised safety protocols to be mask optional, permit congregational singing, and permit food service inside spaced as possible. For details visit our website's COVID-19 resource page at fpcmoorestown.org.

#### **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).

#### **NEW: Couples Series (Hybrid)**

Wes and Jennifer Allen lead an 8-week virtual study on Terrence Real's book, Us: Getting Past You & Me to Build a More Loving Relationship. The bestselling author and renowned marriage counselor explores how our winner take all culture infiltrates families with devastating results: repetitive fights that go nowhere, or a distant relationship where partners live 'alone together.' With deft insight, humor and charm, this groundbreaking guide will help transform your relationship into one that's based on compassion, collaboration and closeness.

<u>REGISTER online</u> on our event page or website. You can order a copy of the book on <u>Amazon</u> or any number of other online retailers.

#### "Called to Reconciliation" Series

**NEW:** Rev. Wes Allen and Dr. Leslie Spencer lead a 5-week discussion on Jonathan Augustine's new book, *Called to Reconciliation: How the Church Can Model Justice, Diversity, and Inclusion.* <u>Register online https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/bWnoYkxa</u> to select the best times that work for you to meet in person or via Zoom. **Starts the week of July 24th.** 

Sermon Series "Esther's Choice": This 10-week summer sermon series is based on the Old Testament book of Esther. Pastors Spencer and Allen preach this 'page turner' of a story that demonstrates how God uses ordinary people to bring change in dangerous times. Began July 10th.

#### **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. Easiest? Scan the QR code to go right to our giving page.



#### Summer Worship Hours Ends September 4 (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.

#### **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.

#### NEW! 4th Sunday Outdoor Contemporary Worship Sunday, August 28 10:30 a.m. OUTDOOR WORSHIP (may move indoors) Please bring a chair if you wish. Nursery care provided.

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

#### Have you remembered the church in your will?

Give the Gift of Summer Volunteer for a day at the beach on Wed. August 17th to support our mission partner, the Children's Fresh Air Home. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Hereford Lighthouse in N. Wildwood, to welcome guests and have fun! During their day at the shore, children are treated to miniature golf, ice cream, a trip to the beach, and a cookout before heading home. Volunteers 14 and older welcome -- earn service hours. SIGN UP online or contact Milt McFalls at love2golf us@yahoo.com or cell/text 856-996-5238.

#### Thank You

Thank you to all who provided meals with the Meal Train and helped take me to appointments during my recent surgery and recovery. I am so appreciative of this loving, giving congregation.

- Ruth Stotsenburg

## Recharge, Renew at Fall Prayer Retreat

Registration is OPEN for the Fall <u>Prayer Retreat</u> at Holy Cross Monastery October 18-21. Pastor Spencer leads a study of spiritual practices from <u>"Where God Happens: Discovering Christ in One Another" by</u> <u>Rowan Williams</u>. Online registration now open; printed forms also available. Cost: \$305 including study book; \$290 if purchasing the book on your own. **Registration and fees are due by September 11.** 

#### Choir Rehearsals Begin in September

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

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

## Looking for contemporary service ushers. Please consider

#### this important ministry. Contact Steve Connlain at

sconnlain@gmail.com.

**Fall Inquirers' Class** Newcomers, are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and the Presbyterian faith? Save the date and see our <u>online</u> <u>event page</u> 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



Gnarly man! Make Waves VBS: June 27-July 1, 2022





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

### NEW: Sermon Series Memory Verse

If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this. (Esther 4:14) For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, ×116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

