First Presbyterian Church
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**Rev. Stuart Spencer**Pastor/Head of Staff
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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:

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 <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

"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



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

August 7-20, 2022





### Way of the Week 12 (Aug. 7-13)

**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

**Ideas for Action:** 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!

### Way of the Week 13 (Aug. 14-20)

**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.

Have you missed someone at church? Tell them. Give them a call, a visit, send a card or a text.

### 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 cell/text 856-996-5238 or love2golf us@yahoo.com.

### **Prayer on the Porch**

Two remaining dates remain to join the Prayer Committee for "Wednesday Evening Prayer on the Porch": Aug. 10 and Aug. 24.



Regular worship times Sept. 11

### Welcome Back Sunday September 11, 2022

- ♦ Worship Times return to 8:30
   a.m. Traditional and 11:00
   a.m. Contemporary
- Adult Spiritual Formation kickoff with Dr. Steve Trzeciak 9:45-10:45 a.m. presenting "Live to Give," our fall sermon series emphasis
- Learn about NEW companion fall small groups for the exciting Live to Give series.
- ♦ Enhanced coffee hour
- Meet John Roberts, new youth director (see page 4).
- No Children's/Middle School Sunday School Sept. 11.
- September 11 Remembrance Service, 4:30 p.m. (cemetery)

# Missions Collections (leave outside Missionwares)

- 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

#### **CREDO Parents Meeting**

Attention Parents: CREDO Parents Information Meeting – Sunday, Sept. 18 at 12:15 p.m. in the Hayes Room. It will be hybrid. See our online event page for Zoom link. Open to all high school students.

#### **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. **Starts Sept. 21.** 

#### 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 <u>Church Center app</u> from your App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android).

### **New Officers Approved**

At the Special Meeting July 31, three officers were approved to immediate terms: Elder Joyce Wenzke (Session); Deacon JoAnn Reynik, and Trustee Mike Welch. Thank you for serving your church.

### **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.

### **PW Fall Gathering**

Plans are underway for the Fall Gathering for Presbyterian Women, scheduled for **Monday**, **September 19**. Look for information on the guest speaker in the coming weeks.

### Recharge, Renew at Fall Prayer Retreat

Registration is OPEN for the Fall Prayer Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery October 18-21. Pastor Spencer leads a study of spiritual practices from "Where God Happens: Discovering Christ in One Another" by Rowan Williams. 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.

# Happy 134th Birthday, FPC Founded September 12, 1888



### 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! Rehearsals begin after Labor Day (see church calendar for dates).

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



### Remembrance Service

Sunday, September 11, 2022

4:30 p.m. outdoor worship Preaching: Rev. Wes Allen



### **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

Looking for contemporary service ushers. Please consider this important ministry. Contact Steve Connlain at

sconnlain@gmail.com.

#### **Consecration Sunday**

Our stewardship series begins Sunday, Sept. 28 with Stewardship Moments, and leads us into a special combined Consecration Sunday on October 16 at 9:30 a.m. Make plans to attend worship that day and dedicate your financial gift for 2023. Church leaders are planning, budgeting and preparing for our coming year in ministry and these Estimates of Giving are critical to the planning process. More information soon. We can't wait to share it with you.

- Your Stewardship Team



### We hope you're having an amazing summer!

### **Sunday School**

Children's (K-6th) and Middle School (grades 7-8) Sunday School returns on **Sunday, Sept. 18** from 9:45-10:45 a.m. We have missed you!



# Family Dinner is Back

Starts Wednesday, October 12

### **Youth Group Kickoff**

IT'S CRUD WARS! Join us for Crud Wars **Sunday, September 11th** from 1-3 p.m. for an incredibly cruddy and messy set of games! Students grades 7th–12th are welcome. Wear clothes you don't care about, they will become trashed! High school youth group begins **Sept. 18.** 

### **Register for Kids and Youth Groups**

Watch for information soon to register online for Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Groups. We're getting ready for an incredible year.

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.

### John Roberts Hired as Youth Director



Our Personnel Team recently voted to fill the youth director vacancy with the contracted services of John Roberts. John is the Young Life Area Director for Burlington County. Beginning Sept. 1, John will serve alongside with youth advisors to lead our weekly middle school and high school youth groups.

Young Life is John's full-time ministry and job. He's graciously committing ten hours a week to help us with our weekly youth ministry programs. Additionally, John will reach out to our young people as he attends concerts and sporting events at local schools.

You'll have the chance to meet John on **Sunday, September 11** when he will help lead worship at both services. We return to our regular worship schedule that day with 8:30 am Traditional and 11:00 am Contemporary. Greet John at the special Coffee Hour between services.

#### **Kids and Youth Groups Return**

A new year of Youth Groups and Kids Groups is coming up fast. Our groups look forward to another year of activities and growing as God's people. Here are the start dates:

- ⇒ Crud Wars (grades 7-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 11th**
- ⇒ Middle School (grades 7-8) on **Wednesday, Oct. 12th** (6:30-8:00 pm)
- ⇒ High School (grades 9-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 18th** (6:30-8:30 pm)
- ⇒ Family Dinner (all) on **Wednesday, October 12th** (6:00-7:00 pm)
- ⇒ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) on **Wednesday, October 12th** (4:45-5:45 pm)
- ⇒ Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) on Wednesday, October 12th (6:30-7:30 pm)

### **Bible Sunday**

Third graders will receive their Bibles on **Sunday, Sept. 18** (both services).