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:

8:30 am Traditional I 1:00 am Contemporary 9:30 am 5th Sunday Blended Worship

Worship streams live from each worship space.

Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or YouTube or Facebook.

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 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



October 2-8, 2022

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown



Way of the Week 20: Find Strength in Belonging

20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING. At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.

Read: Romans 14: 7 – 9; Acts 2: 46; Matthew 12: 25; Psalms 103: 8

Ideas for Action: Is there a disappointment you've been carrying about the church? In prayer, offer it to the Lord and ask for His help in releasing it. If you've been sitting on the sidelines at home, get back in the game by returning to worship and joining a small group, a class or a committee. We need you. WATCH the new video from Paul Booker

Consecration Sunday October 16, 2022

9:30 a.m. worship followed by an outdoor tailgating party

PLAN NOW TO JOIN your church family for a COMBINED **9:30 am** service followed by a church-wide tailgate! Our fall *Live to Give* sermon series leads us directly into our two major stewardship events: Consecration Sunday (October 16) and Church Has Left The Building (October 30).

- During worship we will thoughtfully dedicate our 2023 financial gifts. Nursery care
 will be provided. <u>NOTE:</u> Sunday School will be at 9:30 a.m. during worship.
- After worship, gather outside for a special tailgating cookout! Volunteers will be grilling, and members can bring their favorite side, salad or dessert. We'll have out-door family games too! If you want, come to worship in your favorite team jersey.
 <u>RSVP for the tailgate online</u>, or with an RSVP postcard in worship on Oct. 2 or 9.
 VISIT online at https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/consecration-sunday-2022/

Page 2

Urban Promise Night of Promise

Make reservations to join our FPC Moorestown table(s) at the Urban Promise 'Night of Promise' fundraiser on **Thursday, Oct. 27.** Tickets are \$50 each. <u>Purchase online on</u> <u>our event page</u>. Contact Linda J. at <u>missions@fpcmoorestown.org</u>.

Mission Trip to Greece November 4-12, 2022

Middle and high schoolers and all members. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

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

Church is "Leaving The Building"

On **October 30**, a 5th Sunday, we will gather at **9:30** a.m. for combined worship in Miller Commons for Church Has Left The Building.

Visit our new event page and learn about innovative pro-



jects for this church-wide service mission where members and families go into the community for hands-on service. This year, CHLTB is being coordinated by our Board of Deacons and local benevolence.

NEW! This year we're expanding to TWO days to allow for greater flexibility. Look for engaging projects offered on **Saturday, Oct. 29 and Sunday, Oct. 30.** Opportunities to serve are plentiful. <u>Sign up</u> <u>online</u> and at church for projects that fit your schedule and interests. Visit us on the website! Contact <u>Wes Allen, Kourtney de la</u> <u>Cruz</u> or any Deacon.

Prayer on the Porch

Prayer on the Porch resumes on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. We do have heaters so it will be warm and cozy! Bring a blanket! Next meeting: **Wednesday, Oct. 12.**

Give to Live Blood Drive

FPC Moorestown and the American Red Cross will host a blood drive in Miller Commons on **Tuesday, Nov. 1 (1-6 pm)** "Give to Live." Take advantage of this opportunity to donate your blood to someone in desperate need for this life-giving donation. Let this be a start to this ongoing gift of yours—straight from the heart! <u>See our event</u> page to sign up online. Contact <u>Debbie Heller</u> for questions at 856.206.2897.



NEW: Couples Night Out Friday, October 21, 2022 ~ 6:00-9:00 p.m.

This fall join us for an enjoyable evening out with your spouse and other couples from FPC Moorestown and the community. After sharing a meal with one another, we will enjoy a conversation with Ruth Wright, a marriage and family therapist in Moorestown. Whether your last marital dispute was about the toilet seat being left up or how to discipline your children, you will leave with some foundational tools designed to make you and your spouse a united front.

Cost per couple is \$20. <u>Register online on our event</u> page or through the Church Center app.

Help Us Show God's Love With Flowers

The Deacons will be continuing our monthly flower delivery to members of our congregation who may be in need of some cheer. We are in need of arrangers and delivery volunteers on the third Sunday of the month.

You can volunteer for any month from September through next August, and the time commitment is minimal. **Please consider helping with this wonderful ministry for our congregation!**

For details or to sign up, please contact <u>Deacon Vic-</u> <u>ki Terry</u> (856- 577-9248) or the church office.

Consecration Sunday

Our stewardship series began Sunday, Sept. 28 with Stewardship Moments, and leads us into Consecration Sunday on **October 16 at 9:30 a.m.** We'll hear personal stories from three church members about exactly how your gifts make a critical and impactful difference in our church. The Bible reminds us that we must be stewards of all that we are and everything we have, and recognize that everything comes from God.

Make plans to attend worship and dedicate your financial estimate for 2023. Church leaders are planning, budgeting and preparing for our coming year in ministry and these Estimates of Giving are critical to the process. And stay for a church-wide tailgate after worship! <u>RSVP online</u> for the tailgate so we can accurately determine food needs. And come to church in your favorite team jersey if you like. Visit our website at <u>https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/</u>consecration-sunday-2022/.



Hello, My Name Is ... Please check the boards in the Narthex and Commons Lobby for your nametag so you can wear it Sunday mornings. If you need a replacement, jot your name down on the pad provided.

Fall Small Groups Open

In conjunction with our sermon series Live to Give, is a small group discussion of *Wonder Drug*. <u>Sign up</u> <u>online</u>, on your Church Center app (tap Groups at the bottom), or call the church office at 856.235.1688. Books are available for no charge at the table in Commons Lobby as a gift from Dr. Trzeciak.



Fall Inquirers' Class

Last week newcomers met with the pastors and Membership Committee for the Fall Inquirers class to learn more about FPC Moorestown. Those who wish to join the church will be welcomed during worship on **Sunday, October 9.**

Come to Fire Pit Fridays 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Organ Recital by Jim Roman

Sunday, October 9 7:30 p.m. Free will offering Special Events Series Held in the church sanctuary (live streamed)



Pastor and Program Staff Appreciation Sunday

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in October. On **October 9**, help us celebrate Rev. Stuart, Rev. Wes, and our program staff, by sending them a note of appreciation sharing your gratitude and kind words of appreciation. You may bring a card to either service, or there will also be blank thank you cards available in the Commons Lobby to write a note. Kids: they'd love to receive artwork or a picture from you too!

Prayer Vigil October 15

The Prayer Committee will hold a 12-Hour Prayer Vigil on **Saturday**, **October 15th** to provide our church family an opportunity to reflect on our stewardship emphasis for Consecration Sunday, October 16th: "Live To Give." We will also focus on prayer for "The Church Has Left the Building" Sunday, October 30th. **Please <u>SIGN UP</u>** online for a 30-minute time between 5:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. See Pam Engle for questions.

Music to our Ears

Opportunities are available for all ages and abilities in our music ministry. Try it this year. Rehearsals are underway (see church calendar) for Adult Choir, Bell Choir, Primary Choir (Grades K-1); Junior Choir (Grades 2-4); Choristers (Grades 5-8); Chapel Choir (Grades 9-12).



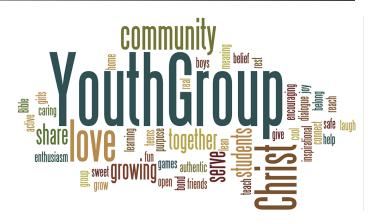


Fellowship Groups & Family Dinner start Wednesday, October 12th

Sunday School

Sunday School meets each Sunday from **9:45-10:45 a.m.** We look forward to seeing you! This year we have new classes for middle school and high school which is very exciting.

- Nursery: Room 12 (Amy Coombe)
- Grades K-2: Room 13 (Jenny Legath & Karen Alecxih)
- Grades 3-5: Room 3-4 (Tamara Trzeciak & Lori Bell)
- Grades 6-8: 3rd Floor (Leslie Spencer & Philip Jagiela)
- High School: Hayes Rm (Sami Fauvell & Denise Conner)



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

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back." - Luke 6: 38 For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, ×116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School: John Roberts interim director 724-967-1646 cell jroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

Register for Kids and Youth Groups

REGISTER ONLINE for Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Groups. Watch for emails from group leaders. We're going to have an incredible year. Come be a part of it.

Kids and Youth Groups Return

A new year of Youth Groups and Kids Groups is upon us and our groups look forward to another year of activities and growing as God's people. <u>And Family Dinner is back!</u>

⇒ Starting Wednesday, October 12

- Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), 4:45-5:45 pm
- Family Dinner (all), 6-7 pm (pay online too!)
- Crossing Zone (grades 4-6), 6:30-7:30 pm
- Middle School Youth (grades 7-8), 6:30-8:00 pm (but come hang out with us Oct. 5)

High School Youth Group started **Sept. 18** (6:30-8:30 pm). Make us your Sunday night stop. Friends always welcome.

Wanted: Middle Schoolers

Youth group leaders invite 6th-8th graders to an informal early start for middle school youth group. Official youth group starts **October 12**, but we can't wait! Come to the church on Wednesdays, Oct. 5 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. to hang out with interim youth director John Roberts, other team leaders and new and old friends.

For Wee Little Ones

Nursery care is available in Room 12 throughout the morning on Sundays. Amy Coombe is our adult caregiver.

Family Dinner

Family Dinner returns this year and starts **Wednesday, October 12.** Dinner is from 6-7 p.m. in Miller Commons. Donations of \$5.00 per person are requested. Families may also conveniently pre-pay as well for \$125 per family. <u>Sign up online</u> on the event page or mail a check to the office. We also need volunteers to help set up and clean up. Contact Angie Slane in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 124 or <u>aslane@fpcmoorestown.org</u> or <u>Holly Asciutto.</u>