First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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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:

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 FP



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Sept. 25-Oct. 2, 2022



Way of the Week 18 (Sept. 25-Oct. 1, 2022)

19. ACCEPT AND DON'T CAST STONES. God's love opens the doors of our church to all people. Just as Jesus did, welcome people as they are. It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.

Read: Luke 15: 1, 2; Romans 15: 7

Ideas for Action: Approach someone you normally avoid at church for whatever reason. Make a point to speak to them this week.

Watch: See the new Way 19 video from Dave Fauvell

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. NOTE: Sunday School will be from 9:30-10:30 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 outdoor family games too! If you want, come to worship in your favorite team jersey.

 RSVP for the tailgate online, or with an RSVP postcard in worship on Oct. 2 or 9.

VISIT online at https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/consecration-sunday-2022/

Urban Promise Night of Promise

Make reservations to join our FPC Moorestown table(s) at the annual Urban Promise 'Night of Promise' fundraiser. Tickets are \$50 each. Purchase online on our event page. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

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

September 12th

In honor of the church's founding on September 12th and its 134th Birthday, members can donate to the future of our church by giving to the September 12 endowment fund. The fund is invested to earn income which helps support the needs of our church. First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown was founded on September 12, 1888. Look for special pew envelopes and a mailing from Pastor Stuart; place gifts in the offering or give securely online.

Couples Night Out Friday, October 21

Join us for an enjoyable evening out with your spouse and other couples. After sharing a meal with one another we will enjoy a conversation with Ruth Wright, a marriage and family therapist in Moorestown. Cost per couple is \$20. Register online. 6-9 p.m. For information contact Wes Allen.

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 projects 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 and a full weekend to allow for greater flexibility. Look for engaging projects offered on Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30. Opportunities to serve are plentiful. Sign up online and at church for projects that fit your schedule and interests. Visit us on the website! For information contact Wes Allen or Kourtney de la Cruz.

NEW: Couples Series (Hybrid)

Started Sept. 21: Wes & Jen 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.

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 Vicki Terry</u> (856- 577-9248) or the church office.

Consecration Sunday

Our stewardship series begins 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! RSVP online 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 https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/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*. Sign up online, 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

This week newcomers are meeting 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 present their Statement of Faith to Session Sunday, Sept. 25.

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



Tuesday, November I I-6 p.m. (Miller Commons)

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 Spencer, Rev. Wes Allen, and our program staff, by sending them a note of appreciation sharing your gratitude for their ministry and kind words of appreciation. You may bring a card to either worship 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 SIGN UP 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).





Family Dinner is back ... starts Wednesday, October 12th

Sunday School

Sunday School returned on **Sept. 18** from 9:45-10:45 a.m. with our kickoff Pancakes and Pajamas party. What a year we will have. Middle schoolers and high schoolers: we have new classes for you too.

- ♦ 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, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

John Roberts interim director
724-967-1646 cell
iroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

TODAY: Communion Workshop

Communion Workshop: Sunday, September 25th from 9:45 -10:45 a.m. in Room 7 during Sunday School hour. Children and parents come together to discuss the meaning of The Lord's Supper.

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, Sept. 28 and 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.

Bible Sunday September 18

Congratulations to our third graders who received their very own Bibles on Bible Sunday: Jacob Allen; Adriana Butler; Fiona LaGrou; Steven Margerum; and Chloe Moffa

For Wee Little Ones

Nursery care is in Room 12 on Sunday mornings.

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 getting ready for an incredible year experiencing God's love.

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. And Family Dinner is back!

⇒ 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 Sept. 28 and Oct. 5)

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