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



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Oct. 30-Nov. 5, 2022



Way of the Week 24: Tell Your Story

24. TELL YOUR STORY. God has done and is doing something unique in your life. Has God answered a prayer, provided help, or blessed you? Share it. Ask God for opportunities to share your faith in Christ by words and deeds.

Ideas for Action: At the start of each morning this week, think about one thing you're grateful to God for from the previous 24 hours. Got it? Now share it with someone else in the course of today.

<u>Church is "Leaving The Building"</u> 5th Sunday Blended Worship: 9:30 a.m.

For the fourth year, FPC Moorestown members will head out into the community to be "the hands and feet of Jesus" for this church-wide mission event. This year, Church Has Left The Building has been coordinated by our Board of Deacons and their Local Benevolence outreach. It's been expanded to TWO days and a full weekend to allow for greater flexibility. Opportunities to serve are being offered on Saturday, Oct. 29 and Sunday, Oct. 30.

SIGN-UPs ARE CLOSED. If you did not sign up for a project, you are welcome to assemble Hygiene Kits on Sunday, Oct. 30 at 10:30 a.m. or make a casserole and bring to the church by 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 30th.

We will kick off the event with a brief Worship Service Sunday, October 30 at **9:30 a.m.** in Miller Commons. There WILL be Sunday School that day at **9:30 a.m.** DURING worship. There will not be Adult Spiritual Formation that day.

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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 page to sign</u> <u>up online.</u> Contact <u>Debbie Heller</u> for questions at 856.206.2897.

West Jersey Concert

Sunday, Oct. 30 West Jersey Chamber Music Society Concert – The Sweetest of the Suites, 7:30 pm; purchase tickets online at www.wjcms.org; live streamed.

Greece Prayer Guide

Our nine-person mission team to Greece will be in country **November 4-12.** See *Connections* this week for a daily prayer guide to follow along with their mission work and support the team in prayer. Commissioning Oct. 30.

Adult Spiritual Formation

No adult class **Oct. 30** (5th Sunday/Church Has Left The Bldg.).

November 6, 13 & 20, Lissa Herman leads a 3-week class, *The Narnian: Joy, Pain, and The Gospel in 'Fairy Stories.'* This will lead into our Advent Study on "The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe, which begins Nov. 27, and our family Advent event "Narnia Night" on Friday, Dec. 2 on "The Lion, The Witch & the Wardrobe" (see page 4).

Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes are due back BY Monday, November 14

Welcome New Members

On October 23rd, we welcomed three individuals who joined the church from the Fall Inquirers Class: **Cara Dempster, Evan Dempster, and Winnie Jiang.** Please greet these new members and their beautiful families.

Deacon Sunday November 6

November 6 is Deacon Sunday. The Board of Deacons is empowered by Session and PC (USA) governance to serve the community with compassion as witnesses to "the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress" (G.2.0201). Deacons funds also support its Hunger Committee's efforts to feed local families through the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter Baskets and gift cards. Monies in the Fund are used to support Family Promise (formerly IHN) and provide specific needs to FPC Moorestown members throughout the year. Please consider a gift this year. You may give online, or use the blue envelope in the pews or boxed sets. Please note "DEACON FUND" on the memo line.

Hop Aboard the Meal Train

Would you like to encourage a member of our church during a challenging time by taking them a meal?

When there is a need for meals within the church, our Deacons create a Meal Train, and let people know they can sign up to bring a meal to someone, based on what works for their schedule. There are times in our lives when friends and family ask, "What can I do to help out?" The answer is usually to help them with a meal.

<u>See our event page</u> for four current Meal Train needs or contact <u>Alison Mackey</u> in the church office at 856.235.1688, x113.

Consecration Sunday

THANK YOU to everyone who came to Consecration Sunday and the Church Tailgate on October 16. What a great day! We worshipped, connected, ate, played, laughed, pledged and reveled in God's work through FPC Moorestown. Members prayerfully dedicated their weekly, monthly or annual financial commitments for 2023. See the photo collage.

We're on our way but have a ways to go. We've received 154 pledges to date compared to last year's 194. To assist with budget work, we ask that all estimates be returned by November 1. Kindly submit your Estimate of Giving securely online, mail, drop off at church, call in, or put in the offering plate.

CREDO Class Starting

CREDO confirmation class for high school students interested in exploring what it means to be a follower of Christ and a member of FPC Moorestown and the Presbyterian Church (USA), will start **Sunday, Nov. 6.** CREDO meets on Sundays from 12:15-2:00 pm in the Hayes Room. <u>Sign up online.</u>

First Sunday in Advent November 27, 2022 Narnia Adult Series Begins

Worship Flowers

Reservations are being taken for 2023 to provide Sunday flowers in our worship spaces. Honor special dates in your life and those you love with flowers crafted by our talented Flower Guild. Each vase is \$40 and you may reserve one or two vases. Contact coordinator Rumi Sinunu at rts319@gmail.com or 856.266.4047 to reserve your meaningful dates and submit payment.

Change Your Clocks Sunday, November 6

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. Please wear your nametags to assist our new members, visitors and guests.

Prayer on the Porch

Prayer on the Porch meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. We have heaters so it will be warm and cozy. Bring a blanket! NEXT: **Wed. Nov. 9.**



Help Us Show God's Love With Flowers

The Deacons will be continuing 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 Deacon Vicki Terry (856-577-9248) or Alison in the church office.

> Poinsettia Sales November 13, 20, 27

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



Advent Season

During Advent, we will connect our education series, family events and Advent devotionals to the C.S. Lewis book "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." See page 4 in *Connections* for a family movie night **Nov. 10** and family event **Dec. 2.** See page 2 for adult spiritual formation beginning **Nov. 6.** See our website and <u>event page</u> for information. Bring your friends and neighbors, it is open to all.



A Season of Thanks

On **Sunday, Nov. 20** we will have Thanksgiving postcards available in both services to send to those for whom you are thankful. Please mail them yourself or give to the church office **addressed** with the mailing address to be mailed November 21.

Longest Night

On Sunday, Dec. 11 we will present our Longest Night worship service. Please share this event with those you know who might need a quiet place in the rush of December, an authentic respite in the midst of busy holiday activities, or with those who have experienced a loss. If you know someone you would like us to invite to this service, wonderful! Please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey in the church office so we may send them an invitation letter. Contact Alison at amackey@fpcmoorestown.org or (856) 235-1688, Ext. 113.



October 30: Sunday School 9:30 am during worship for children, youth

Register for Kids and Youth Groups

REGISTER ONLINE for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (4th-6th), Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th) and High School Youth Groups (9th-12th). Come hang out, share, and learn about Jesus Christ.

Sunday School

Meets each Sunday 9:45-10:45 am. NEW: On 5th Sundays, Sunday School will meet at 9:30 am DURING worship.

For Wee Little Ones

Nursery care is available in Room 12 on Sunday mornings.

High School Winter Retreat

IT'S A WEEKEND full of adventure, fun, and classic Young Life energy for grades 9-12 at Lake Champion with area Young Life teens.

- WHEN: December 2-4, 2022

WHERE: Lake Champion Young Life Camp (NY)
WHAT: Zip line, ropes course, rock wall, club, giant swing, awesome food, gym, game room, new friends, and more!!!

- REGISTRATION: \$195 per person. Complete sign up form: <u>https://forms.gle/hucaRhKkDqexKaA38</u>

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

"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 iroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

Family Dinner

Family Dinner is available Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m. in Miller Commons. \$5.00 each, pay at the door or conveniently pre-pay ahead for \$125 per family. <u>Sign up online</u> on the event page or mail a check to the office. *We also need volunteers each week to help set up and clean up.* Contact <u>Angie Slane</u> at 856.235.1688, x124. **MENU for Nov. 2:** Roast Beef (GF), Chicken Fingers, Baked Penne, Roasted Potatoes (GF), Mesclun Salad (GF); Caesar Salad; Rolls and Butter; Water, tea, lemonade GF = gluten free

Coming: Advent Family Events

This year during Advent, we will base our family devotional on the intersection of C.S. Lewis's book The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe and Jesus. We will focus on Aslan and what The Lion teaches us about Jesus. **Starts Nov. 27.**

It would help if, as a family, you read the book ahead of time. <u>On our event page</u>, see links to different book formats for different ages. Reading together is a great way to help build a parent-child bond and to be able to answer

questions while discussing what is happening. Need some help? Reach out to <u>Holly Asciutto</u> at 856.235.1688, x 116.

Watch the Movie

On **Thursday, Nov. 10** at 6:30 pm, we will show the movie *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Disney version).

Family Event: Narnia Night

NEW: There will be an interactive Narnia Night at the church on **December 2, 2022**, from 6:00-8:00 pm. We will have lots of surprises at a walkthrough of Narnia. Come and bring your family, friends, and neighbors. It will be open to all. Stay tuned for more information.

