First Presbyterian Church 101 Bridgeboro Road MAIL: PO Box 868 Moorestown, NJ 08057 fpcmoorestown.org 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 11:00 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 imartin@fbcmoorestown.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.

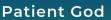


Connections FPC



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

November 6-12, 2022







Way of the Week 25: Rejoice Always

25. **REJOICE ALWAYS.** The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

Ideas for Action: Plan a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families over to celebrate. Don't forget the cake! What's the occasion? The joy of knowing and serving Jesus and belonging to our church family are reasons enough.













Operation Christmas Child

Please return filled shoeboxes no later than Monday, Nov. 14 to the Commons Lobby. Thank you!

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

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).

Register for Kids and Youth Groups

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 uniust 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.

Online Holiday Gift Drive

Like last year, the Deacons' Community Welfare Committee has organized an online gift drive for Christian Caring Center to provide much needed items to local families this holiday.

Please visit yougivegoods.com/ fpcm2022 to go to our personalized event page from Nov. 4-28 where you can "shop" 24/7. Simply select the items you would like to donate from the choices given (hats, gloves, scarves, books, games, blankets and ΡJ pants) and pay online. All items will ship directly to the Christian Caring Center. The organization plans to use the items as part of their Christmas basket distribution to families in December.

Please complete online gift purchases by Monday, November 28. Any questions, please contact Deacon Caroline Joyce at dmcljoyce@comcast.net.

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 164 Pledges to date compared to last year's 194. To assist with budget work, we ask that all estimates be returned this week. 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. Sign up online.

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 month from September through next August, and the time commitment is minimal. 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.

Holiday Poinsettia Sales November 13, 20, 27

Missions Collections

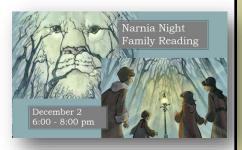
(leave outside Missionwares)

- 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 event page 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.



Coming: Gingerbread House Family Advent Event



Last weekend for Church Has Left The Building, several of our youngsters pitched in working alongside their parents and other church adults. They're learning how to be the church and to serve. Our youngsters helped on site, painted, wrote cards for college students, assembled hygiene kits and even dropped off cookies to deliver.

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: https://forms.gle/hucaRhKkDqexKaA38

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

But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance. (2 Timothy 3: 10)

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



Coming: Advent Family Events

This year during Advent, we will base our family devotional on C.S. Lewis's book *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. We will focus on Aslan and what The Lion teaches us about Jesus. It would help if, as a family, you read the book ahead of time. On our event page, 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 help? Reach out to Holly Asciutto at 856.235.1688, x 116.

⇒ Watch the Movie Here on November 10

On **Thursday, Nov. 10** at 6:30 pm, we will show the movie *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* (Disney version, PG). ALL are invited. Bring a snack, blanket, pillows to be comfy! We will provide popcorn & drinks.

⇒ 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.

Family Dinner is Wednesdays from 6-7 pm; \$5 each or conveniently pre-pay \$125 per family. Sign up online on or mail a check to the office. We also need volunteers each week to help set up and clean up. Contact Angie Slane at 856.235.1688, x124. **MENU for Nov. 9:** Chicken parm., Sloppy Joe, Mac 'n cheese, Eggplant rollatini, Salads, rolls, garlic spread, water, tea, lemonade.