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:

8:30 am Traditional I I: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

February 5-11, 2023



#### Way of the Week #13: Open Doors for Others to Lead

**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*.

<u>Ideas for Action</u>: 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.

COMING SOON: Lenten Book Study "Why Jesus Crossed the Road" by Dr. Bruce Main

#### **Annual Meeting / 2022 Annual Report**

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held **Sunday, February 5, 2023** in Fellowship Hall after the 11:00 am contemporary service. The meeting will also be <u>available via Zoom</u>. Copies of the *2022 Annual Report* were available **January 29, 2022** at church and online through our eblast, website and online Events page.



## Adult Spiritual Formation 9:45-10:45 am Sundays

Beginning **Sunday, February 5**, we will offer two intriguing options:

- ♦ How We Love This 9-week couples' study (Feb. 5-Apr. 2) is designed to strengthen your marriage. "How We Love" explores the five broken Love Styles preventing intimacy and effective communication in relationships. Books are \$16, and the workbooks are \$12. See our event page. HAYES
- The Book of Acts Acts chronicles some of the most important events in Christian history: the sending of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the early Church, and the scattering of Jesus' disciples across the world. This 12-week study (Feb. 5-Apr. 30) will help you understand these historic events and provide the tools and resources for daily application in the 21st century. The class will be team taught by

Lorenzo Eagles, Lissa Herman, and Rev. Wes Allen. SIGN UP ONLINE or through the Church Center app *Signups tab*. 9:45 am in the Lounge

### Are you receiving the church's Friday eblast?

#### **Flower Deliverers**

On the third Sunday of the month, our deacons deliver flowers from worship to two individuals needing a lift from their church. Deliverers are needed. Can you help? Upcoming dates are Feb. 19, March 19, April 16 and May 21. Contact JoAnn Reynik at 856.495.1337 or sewcrafty225@yahoo.com.

#### **Sunday Hospitality**

Sunday morning volunteers are needed to help out with hospitality with Chelsea Margerum to prepare coffee, set out bagels and snacks, and clean up. Please consider serving on this team. Contact Jan Martin if interested.

# Concert: Ukraine: Keep the Music Alive! Saturday, February I I

On the eve of the anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the Arcadian Trio will perform a program titled "Ukraine: Keep the Music Alive!" The West Jersey Chamber Music Society will present the program Saturday Feb. 11 at 7:30 pm at FPC Moorestown and it will feature music by Ukrainian composers. The trio consists of violinist Igor Szwec, cellist Vivian Barton Dozor and pianist Diane Goldsmith. Ivan Woods will offer commentary. A highlight of the program will be the trio's own arrangement of Sergei Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf."

TICKETS: \$28, seniors \$20, students 18 and under free, at wjcms.org and at the door. Donations, by cash or check, will be received for Ukraine relief. Questions contact JoAnn Nawrocki at (609) 257-7982.

## Ash Wednesday Worship February 22, 2023

We begin the Journey of Lent on Ash Wednesday February 22nd. New this year is a 12 noon Ash Wednesday worship, for those who prefer not to come out in the evening. The evening worship will be at 7:00 pm. Both services will feature prayer, the Lord's Supper, the imposition of ashes and a meaningful message by Rev. Wes Allen.



#### Final Statements Have Been Emailed

Final giving statements for the calendar year 2022 have been **sent via electronic mail** to member households. Households without an email listed have been mailed their statements.

This one-click statement download link expires at **February 8, 2023** at 10:00am EST. After that, you'll need to log into your donor account where you can access your statements, manage recurring donations, and set your donor preferences.

If you need help with your statement, please contact Norm Vandergrift in the church office at 856.235.1688, Ext. 112.

#### Yes, I'm Here or Watching

THANK YOU for registering your attendance each Sunday you're here. Our simple automated check -in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and provides accurate records for the Membership team, staff and member care. Download the Church Center app on your phone to easily check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer. REMINDER: When watching the live stream at home or attending in person, check in on your smart phone to note participation.

### Have you remembered the church in your will?

#### Per Capita

In February, look for mailed information regarding our annual Per Capita giving. As Presbyterians, connectional are а church. This annual assessment is a contribution of \$38.75 per member that each church pays to the larger church to support the General Assembly, Synod and our Presbytery. Our Presbytery has not raised its per capita amount in over 10 years. Thank you for your help in offsetting these costs for the church. Giving online? See drop down for electronic giving.



Spring Prayer Retreat
May 2-5, 2023
Holy Cross Monastery

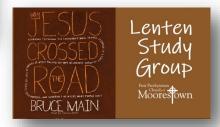
#### Winter Inquirers Class

Are you interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and possibly joining the congregation? The Membership Committee invites you to attend its Winter Inquirers Class in February. This series is for those interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown and the Presbyterian Church as a whole. The three -part series begins Feb. 15 and is comprised of a Wednesday evening in-person or Zoom time (please come to Family Dinner that night as our quest!), a Saturday in-person class and a Sunday meeting with Session to be received into membership. This format is designed for today's busy schedules. We look forward to learning more about you! See our website and events page for schedules and to register.



#### **2023 Worship Flowers**

Reservations are being taken for 2023 to provide flowers for worship. Honor special dates in your life and those you love with flowers crafted by our Flower Guild. Each vase is \$40, reserve 1 or 2 vases. Please contact Rumi Sinunu at <a href="mailto:rts319@gmail.com">rts319@gmail.com</a> or 856.266.4047 to reserve your dates.



# How Can You Serve Your Church This Year?

The Nominations Committee is currently seeking individuals to staff the three Boards of the church: Elders, Deacons and Trustees. Please pray about where God may be calling you. You may nominate yourself or someone else you feel would be a good fit for these positions. Fillout an online nominations form

### Wednesday Worship During Lent

Our pastors will lead an in-person Wednesday evening worship at **6:30 pm** on the Wednesdays during Lent: March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.

### Praying the Bible with Stuart Spencer

Thursdays in Lent, Stuart Spencer leads a Zoom *Lectio Divina* from 6:30-7:00 pm on March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. No sign up needed. Learn more at <a href="https://pray-as-you-go.org">https://pray-as-you-go.org</a> and watch for the Zoom link.

#### Look for sign ups soon for the Lenten Study Groups

#### **Online Giving Increases**

We have several donors that have increased their pledge for 2023 (thank you!) but are still registering at the 2022 level. Indicating the amount on the pledge card alone does not initiate the change. There are two ways that this can be done: (1) Simply edit your profile in the Church Center mobile app with your 2023 amount, or (2) send an email to Norman Vandergrift with your permission and he can change it for you.

See you in worship!



### One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks are coming

#### Family Dinner Menu Wednesday, February I 6:00-7:00 pm, \$5 per person please

Chicken Alfredo and Pasta, Roast Pork (sandwich style), Baked Penne, Mixed Vegetables, Mesculin Salad (no cheese), Caesar Salad, Rolls and Butter, Beverages

#### **ASH WEDNESDAY REMINDER**

There will be NO Kingdom Kids or Crossing Zone on Ash Wednesday **February 22** so that children may worship with their family. Worship is at 7:00 pm.

#### Middle School Youth Group Wednesday evenings 6:30-8:00 pm

Grades 7, 8

For questions reach out to interim director John Roberts at 724.967.1646 or johnjpsg@gmail.com or Liz Greene at 856.220-0750 or leapinlizzy7@gmail.com.



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: contact John Roberts, interim director

### Sermon Series Memory Verse

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and we will share a meal together as friends. (Rev 3: 20)

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

#### The Season of Lent

Beginning **Sunday, February 19**, families with children can pick up their own personal "Lent in a Box" in the Commons Lobby! This box includes tangible activities, (supplies provided!) devotionals/scriptures, and hands-on prayer exercises each week for families to journey through Lent. Families may also pick up on Wednesday nights during Fellowship Groups. For more information contact Holly Asciutto at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org.





### **Easter Egg Hunt Donations**

We are looking for donations of candy and small toys for our 2023 Easter egg hunt! The Easter egg hunt is on Saturday, April 1 from 10:30-11:30 am.

Donate candies that are fun size, nut-free and individually wrapped, small toys, stickers or tattoos that will fit in a standard size plastic egg. **Please do not prefill eggs as the items are sorted by age.** Drop off candy and toys at the church office. Please contact <u>Holly Asciutto</u> or <u>Angie Slane</u> with any questions (856.235.1688).