First Presbyterian Church 101 Bridgeboro Road MAIL: P. O. 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 on Sunday morning at church or via live stream as we worship the Lord with gladness:

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.

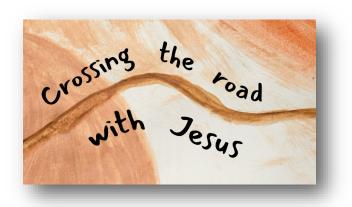


Connections FP



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

March 12-18, 2023



Way of the Week #18: Ask For Help

18. ASK FOR HELP. Part of being a real and authentic member of the church is to acknowledge your weaknesses and be willing to ask for God's help and the support of others. None of us can go it alone. Vulnerability is a sign of strength and a gift to others.

Ideas for Action: First think about what you need help with right now. Then, share that need with someone else from our congregation this week.

2023 Lent Resource Guide

Wednesday Worship During Lent

Our Pastors will lead an in-person evening worship at **6:30 pm** on the Wednesdays during Lent, marked by heartfelt personal testimony. Remaining dates: **March 15, 22, 29**. Theme: "Light in the Darkness"

Praying the Bible with Stuart Spencer

Thursdays in Lent, Stuart Spencer leads a Zoom *Lectio Divina* from 6:30-7:00 pm on **March 16, 23, 30**. No sign-up needed. Learn more at <u>https://pray-as-you-go.org</u> and watch for the Zoom link. Praying the Bible or *Lectio Divina* is an ancient form of contemplative prayer. Lectio Divina (sacred reading) is a way to pray by using the words of the Bible. <u>Zoom link found on event page or in Lent Resource Guide</u>

Easter Flower Deliverers Needed

The Deacons are seeking volunteers from our congregation to help with Easter Flower deliveries on Easter Sunday, April 9th. This is a wonderful way to show our love to some of our less mobile members and brighten their Easter Day. If you can help with deliveries, please contact Deacon Vicki Terry (vickiterry633@gmail.com), Deacon Rachel Long (rchumney@gmail.com) or Jan Martin in the church office (856) 235-1611.

Page 2

Floral Guild Invitation March 18 Potluck

Please join our Floral Guild as they host the Haddonfield UMC Floral Guild on **Saturday, March 18**. Rev. David VanSciver, Director of HUMC Floral Arts, will present an entertaining presentation at 11:00 am followed by a potluck luncheon. Come early for conversation! Sign up with Fran Green at 856-905-3075 or <u>fegreen@verizon.net</u>. FREE.

Lent Book Study

During Lent, we are reading Dr. Bruce Main's book, "Why Jesus Crossed the Road." Most Groups began the week of Ash Wednesday. Books are available for purchase at the church (\$11) or <u>online</u>. <u>Sign up online</u> or right from your Church Center app.



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

Sunday mornings we offer two intriguing adult studies. SIGN UP from the Church Center app on your phone, or our online Events Pages:

- How We Love This 9-week couples' study is designed to strengthen your marriage and explore the five broken Love Styles preventing intimacy and effective communication.
 Hayes Room. Ends April 2.
- The Book of Acts Acts chronicles some of the most important events in Christian history. This study will explore these historic events and provide tools and resources for daily application in the 21st century. Class is team-taught by Lorenzo Eagles, Lissa Herman, and Wes Allen. Fellowship Hall A, ends May 21 (now extended); No class April 9.



Come out for a meaningful and fun day working with others at UrbanPromise!

- WHO: 7th-12th Graders (friends welcome!)
- WHAT: Youth Mission Day at UrbanPromise
- WHEN: Saturday, March 25
- TIME: 9:00 am 1:00 pm
- COST: \$16 online
- LOCATION: 3370 Rudderow Street, Pennsauken

Cost covers lunch and supplies for the work project. <u>Register</u> <u>online on our events page</u> or through the Church Center app. Let John Roberts <u>johnjpsg@gmail.com</u> know you are participating to arrange carpools to Urban Promise.

⇒ Preschool Dine and Donate Tuesday, March 14

OUR PRESCHOOL is having a Dine and Donate event at Passariello's in Moorestown on **Tuesday, March 14.** It is all day, lunch and dinner (9:00 am—10:00 pm). Order and mention Step by Step Christian Preschool and we receive a portion of the proceeds. Yes, take out too!

Lent Devotional

A beautiful companion piece to the Lenten study, *Water and Spirit* provides daily devotions for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Purchase from Amazon, <u>any Christian bookseller</u> or through the church office, which has a limited quantity (\$4).

Easter Flower Orders

On Easter, congregation members may honor loved ones by purchasing Easter flowers (\$15) to be placed in our worship spaces on Easter, April 9. <u>Order forms</u> are available on **March 12** and **19** and also online. Please mail your payment or drop in the offering plate. <u>Orders are DUE by Sunday,</u> <u>March 19.</u>

Deacon Flower Deliverers

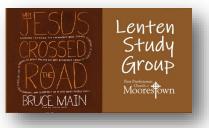
On the third Sunday of the month, our Deacons deliver flowers from worship to two individuals needing a lift from their church. *Deliverers are needed*. Would you like to help? Upcoming dates are **March 19, April 16** and **May 21**. Contact Deacon JoAnn Reynik at <u>sewcrafty225@yahoo.com</u> or 856.495.1337.

Lent Resource Guide

For a complete listing of Lent and Easter devotionals, activities, worship and giving opportunities, pick up a copy of our "Lent Resource Guide" at church or <u>download a</u> copy from the website or e-blast.

Per Capita

Yes, you can still submit your annual Per Capita giving if you have not done so. Members paying this share of \$38.75 per member helps defray significant costs for our church. As Presbyterians, we are a connectional 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 Presbyterv. Giving online? See dropdown for Per Capita.



How Can You Serve Your Church This Year?

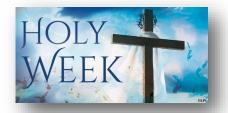
The Nominations Committee is currently seeking men and women of all ages to staff the three Boards of the church: Elders, Deacons and Trustees. Please pray about where God may be calling you. You may nominate yourself or someone else you feel would be a good fit for these positions. <u>Fill</u> <u>out an online nominations form</u> or contact Gil Warren, chair.

We welcomed seven (7) new members on Sunday, March 5.

Palm Sunday Concert

Sunday, April 2

Haydn's "Theresa" Mass West Jersey Chamber Symphony Chorale and Adult Choir Tickets \$28, Seniors \$20, 18 and under free Purchase online at <u>www.wjcms.org</u> or at the door. INFO: Joann Nawrocki 609-417-2873.



Holy Week Schedule April 6: Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm, Miller Commons

April 7: Good Friday Tenebrae 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

April 9: Easter Sunday

- 6:30 am Sunrise Service
- 8:30 am Traditional Worship
- 11:00 am Contemporary Worship
- So families may be together, there is no Children's Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation, or Nursery Care

Sunday Hospitality

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

SPECIAL EVENT

<u>Couples Retreat in Cape May</u> May 19-21, 2023 Register on our event page

Spring Prayer Retreat May 2-5, 2023

Join a group of friends from a number of churches at Holy Cross Monastery, an Episcopalian Benedictine monastery, for the Spring Prayer Retreat. Pastor Stuart leads this study of prayer and meditative practices using our study book, "God of All Things." See our brochure, <u>Events Page</u>, or website to register. **Deadline: April 2.**



Sunday Check Ins

Please take a few seconds to *register your attendance* each Sunday you're here and/or are watching on your device. Our simple automated check-in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and provides accurate records for the Membership Committee, staff and pastors, and can be easily done from your phone. <u>Download the Church Center app</u> to easily check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer.



<u>We're thinking camp!</u> Sign ups are OPEN for Camp Johnsonburg Summer Camp July 16-21, grades 2nd-12th. Check out this incredible "Sacred Place, Open Space."

Page 3



Return One Great Hour of Sharing fish banks Palm Sunday (April 2)

Family Dinner Menu Wednesday, March 15 6:00-7:00 pm ~ \$5.00 per person

Chicken Penne with Alfredo Sauce Sausage, Peppers and Onions Mashed Potatoes Vegetables Salads Rolls & Butter Beverages

Middle School Youth Group (grades 7, 8) Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 pm

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS: Come out for a super fun outing to Funplex on **Wednesday, March 22**! We'll have a blast with indoor rides and games! <u>RSVP online</u>, cost is \$16 (\$15 in person) plus any snacks or drinks you'd like. We

will meet at Funplex at 6:00 pm. Funplex is located at 3320 -24 NJ-38 in Mount Laurel. See our event page or contact John Roberts or Liz Greene.



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

Later, as Jesus left the town, he saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at his tax collection booth. Come, be my disciple!" Jesus said to him. So Levi got up, left everything and followed him. - Luke 5: 27, 28 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

Family Lent in a Box

A few boxes remain so please come pick one up. This box includes tangible activities, (supplies provided!) devotionals/scriptures, and hands-on prayer exercises each week for families to journey through Lent. ONE per family please.

One Great Hour of Sharing

As is our tradition, children have received a Lenten **Fish Box** for "One Great Hour of Sharing" as a means of charitable giving during Lent. Completed fish boxes will be collected during both Palm Sunday services on **April 2nd.** There is NO Sunday School on April 9, Easter.



Easter Egg Hunt Donations by March 15

YES, we can still use donations of candy and small toys for our 2023 Easter egg hunt! DONATE candies that are fun size, <u>nut-free</u> 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). **Drop off by March 15.**

The Children's Easter Celebration will be **Saturday, April 1** from 10:30-11:00 am, and will be outside so dress appropriately. Celebrate the joy of Easter with an Egg hunt for children ages 0-10! There is no charge; canned food for the food pantry as an entrance will be welcomed. If it rains, we will move indoors. Don't forget your basket!

Easter Break Wednesday, April 5 & 12

No Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Family Dinner or Middle School Youth Group