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

April 30-May 6, 2023

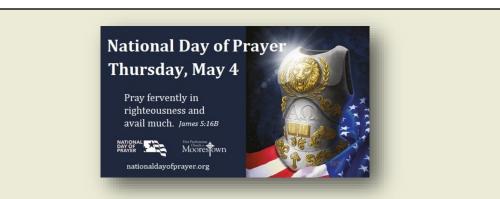


Way of the Week 25: Rejoice Always

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.

Read: Luke 15: 22-24; Philippians 4: 4; Proverbs 17: 22

Ideas for Action (try to complete by 12 noon Tuesday): Throw a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families from the church 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.



"The Effective, Fervent Prayer of a righteous man avails much." - James 5: 16B

National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 4

PLEASE JOIN our church family as we lift up our nation to the Lord in prayer. On this National Day of Prayer, the Prayer Committee will be presenting a Prayer Vigil and 3-hour Prayer Zoom (come when you can, stay how you can). See our <u>website</u> and events page for a Sign Up Genius for the May 4th vigil and much more information. This year's theme is "Pray Fervently in Righteousness and Avail Much."

Page 2

Fifth Sunday April 30 for Cathedral Kitchen

Our Fifth Sunday combined worship will be held in Miller Commons at 9:30 a.m. on April 30 and afterwards we have a churchwide service project for Cathedral Kitchen! Cathedral Kitchen is the largest emergency food provider in Camden, NJ, serving over 100,000 nutritious meals to homeless and food insecure people each year. Our Deacons will lead us in making 250 turkey and cheese sandwiches, decorating placemats and designing centerpieces for the tables at CK. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. All ages are welcome to participate!

See our event page to SIGN UP, DONATE or watch a video about CK.



AMERICAN RED CROSS

Spring into action <u>BLOOD DRIVE</u> Friday, May 12 1:00-6:00 pm Miller Commons *Give the gift of life*

I wanted to thank each of you for your prayers and your cards during my recent left hip surgery; they have been a means of such encouragement. I thank you for the meals, shared lunches, rides to physical therapy, safety checks, and visits, each one was special. I have never felt "the Body of Christ" so clearly defined to me before. So very thankful for the love that you have poured out upon me.

- Jean Kunkel



2023 Graduates

Do you know of a 2023 graduate? Please fill out a <u>brief form</u> to submit names of high school, college or post-grad graduates to <u>Jan Martin</u> in the church office. Graduate Recognition Sunday will be **May 7.**

PW Spring Gathering

Thursday, June 8 6:00 pm ~ Miller Commons Three engaging speakers Boxed dinner available \$15 (see order form on <u>event page</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? Families welcome. Please contact Deacon JoAnn Reynik at <u>sewcrafty225@yahoo.com</u> or 856.495.1337 cell if you can serve as a driver on these 3rd Sundays or as a Delivery Arranger (assemble the two smaller arrangements).

<u>Sunday, May 28</u> Ordination and Installation of Officers Pentecost Sunday (wear red) Regular worship hours

Congregational Meeting

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, New Jersey, has called a special meeting of the congregation. This meeting will be held **Sunday, April 30, 2023**, immediately following the 9:30 AM blended worship service in Miller Commons. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees to a term of office beginning June 1, 2023.

CREDO Class

Young people from our CREDO class who wish to become members of FPC Moorestown, will be welcomed during worship on **Sunday, May 14**. The confirmation class presented their Statements of Faith to members of Session on April 25.

Spring Inquirers Class

TODAY we welcome seven members from our Spring Inquirers Class. It's an incredible group. Please see the worship guide for their contact information, and be sure to introduce yourself!

Garden Dedication

Join us for the Dedication and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden. We will celebrate the official opening of the garden on Monday, June 12, 2023 at 6:00 pm by the garden. We will be joined by Moorestown Mayor Nicole Gillespie, members of the town council and the Ritter family who have graciously funded the initial construction of the garden. Please join us as Pastor Spencer dedicates the garden, Mayor Gillespie offers her support and the Ritter family cuts the ribbon to commemorate the start of this new ministry to the Moorestown community. See our event page and website for all the current garden happenings!

2023 Strawberry Festival

Friday, June 2, 2023 6:00-9:00 p.m. OUTSIDE on church grounds Free will offering

Check out our Podcasts

Stay up to date with FPC Moorestown's sermon series by subscribing to our weekly sermon podcast now available on Apple Podcasts, Amazon Music, Google Podcasts, Spotify and Anchor. Full worship services continue to be available with video on YouTube and Facebook or by visiting www.fpcmoorestown.org.

Youth Choir Concert Sunday, May 7 (7 pm)

Come support our young choir members (Junior Choir, Choristers, and Chapel Choir) as they perform many sacred selections from this year. They will be accompanied by the West Jersey Chamber Orchestra. A free will offering will be received, and the concert will also be live streamed.



Sunday, May /tn, 7:00 pm west jersey chamber symphony Juniar Chair, Charisters & Chapel Chair

Remember to please wear your nametags to worship

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

SIGN UP from the Church Center app on your phone, or our online Events Pages (Church Center):

- You and Me Forever study meets April 16-June 11. Marriage is great, but it's not forever. It's until death do us part. Then come eternal rewards or regrets depending on how we spent our lives. The \$25 registration includes one copy of the book and workbook. Hayes Rm.
- The Book of Acts study will explore some of the most important events in Christian history and apply them to the 21st century. Class is taught by Lorenzo Eagles, Lissa Herman, and Wes Allen. FH A, ends May 21.

Couples Retreat

Yes, there's still room! Registration is open for the Couples Retreat at the Dormer House B&B in Cape May **May 19-21.** Register on our <u>event page</u> or through the Church Center app. Registration deadline: **May 12.**

Camp J-Burg

Sign ups are OPEN for Camp Johnsonburg Summer Camp **July 16-21**, grades 2nd-12th. Check out this incredible "Sacred Place, Open Space." See our <u>event page</u> and pick up literature at church.

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.

Legacy Giving/Wills Emphasis Sunday, June 4 Thank you for remembering the church in your family's estate planning and giving

Summer Worship Schedule

(Begins Sunday, June 4 through Sunday, Sept. 3)

9:00 am Traditional 10:30 am Contemporary



May 21: Teacher Appreciation & Last Day of Children's Sunday School





The last meeting for the Middle School Youth Group (grades 7, 8) will be **Wednesday, May 10**.

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, x116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School: John Roberts-interim director 724-967-1646 cell iroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

Fifth Sunday is April 30

On the Fifth Sunday April 30, children's Sunday School will meet at **9:30 am during worship**. Nursery care will be available in Room 12.

Sunday School

Sunday School will end on **Sunday, May 21** :(. Thank you to our teachers, helpers and group leaders for another meaningful year sharing the Word with our children.



Yes, registration is OPEN for <u>Vacation Bible School: "Stellar:</u> <u>Shine Jesus' Light"</u>!

Vacation Bible School 2023 June 26-June 30 (9:00 am-Noon)

- June 26- June 30, 2023
- 9:00 am 12:00 noon
- Entering Kindergarten through entering 6th grade (FALL 2023).
- Please enter your child's **CURRENT** grade for 2022-23.
- Cost: \$25 per child (\$20 for additional child)
- Registration Due: June 14

At *Stellar* VBS we will launch a cosmic quest and have a blast shining Jesus' light into the world. Kids will take off on an out-of-this-world adventure that is light years of faith-building fun.

Adult and teen volunteers: we need you!

Sign up on our event page or on the Church Center app.