First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
MAIL: P. O. 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 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

May 28-June 3, 2023





# Way of the Week 4: Always Encourage & Celebrate

(May 28-June 3, 2023)

**4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELEBRATE.** Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

**Ideas for Action:** Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.

## **Strawberry Festival is one week away!**



The 'berry' best day of the year is almost here! Strawberry Festival is **Friday**, **June 2 from 6-9 pm.** There will be two bands, tours of our new Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden, inflatables and games for the kids, a photo booth, strawberries, ice cream and cake! Suggested donation \$8 adults, \$4 children. This year Venmo will be available too!

See our <u>online event page</u> or <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org/strawberry</u> for everything you need to know, and ways to sign up to volunteer or donate cakes or \$\$. **We need you.** If you can't bake or buy, you can donate towards the 200 cakes we need or help defray our expenses. Donate via Venmo (@fpcmoorestown), cash or check.

In response to feedback, hulling starts earlier this year: 10:30 am on Thursday, June 1!

SIGN UP: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f054cacae28aafe3-strawberry#/



## **PW Spring Gathering**

Thursday, June 8
6:00 pm ~ Miller Commons
Three engaging speakers:
Jen Allen, Rev. Debby Brincivalli,
Dr. Leslie Spencer
"What's a Christian Woman
to do?"

Boxed dinner available \$15 (see order form on event page; dinner orders due by May 25); an event of the Presbytery For Southern New Jersey PW; sign up online or on website please or contact Jane Murphy at 856-630-4904.

Connections prints every two weeks beginning with summer hours June 4, 2023.



# Legacy Giving Sunday Sunday, June 4

How to remember the church in your family's estate planning and charitable giving

# In May We Remember Mothers

In May, we are celebrating mothers and mothers to be. Join us in collecting change for Options for Women to help them provide free Ultra Sounds to women. Pick up a baby bottle and save your change through the month of May. Bring them to church on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> and join us for a baby shower at 11:45 am to share brunch and hear speakers from Options. Visit <a href="https://optionsnj.org/">https://optionsnj.org/</a>. Note time change due to summer hours.

#### **World Refugee Day**

World Refugee Day is an international day designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the globe. It falls each year on June 20th and celebrates the strength and courage of people who have been forced to flee their home country to escape conflict or persecution. Look for pew envelopes on Sunday, June 25 for donations to the ministry of our missionary Nadia Ayoub who is working with Ukrainian refugees in Greece. For information https://www.unhcr.org/ visit world-refugee-day.

Thank you outgoing Elders, Deacons and Trustees for your leadership and service. Incoming officers begin their terms June 1.

Are you receiving the Friday eblast? Contact Jan Martin in the church office.

# **Worship Survey**

Check your email for a survey from the Worship Committee, soliciting feedback on worship styles and worship times. Please fill it out online (hard copies will be available). Contact the church office or Paul Booker if you didn't receive the eblast.

## **Summer Worship Schedule**

Summer worship hours will begin on **Sunday, June 4**. Worship times shift to **9:00 am** Traditional and **10:30 am** Contemporary. There is no children's Sunday School in the summer. Beginning **June 4**, Adult Spiritual Formation offers a casual drop-in series discussing the sermon text from 10:00-10:45 am in the Lounge. Stop in for whatever time you can.



Sunday, May 28 — Wear red
Ordination and Installation of Officers
Regular worship hours

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. - Acts 2:1

#### **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. 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 current garden happenings and new weekend times to harvest, water, and weed.

#### **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 our website www.fpcmoorestown.org.

#### Thank You from Earl

Dear FPC Moorestown Family, I want to thank each of you for your prayers, cards, flowers and heartfelt support following the death of my wife Randi. She was an amazing, strong woman and your encouragement and love has been sustaining for me. My family and I are so thankful for this community of faith and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

- Earl Gage

## **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 event page and pick up literature at church.

# Adult Spiritual Formation 10:00-10:45 am Sundays

Beginning **June 4**, Adult Spiritual Formation offers a casual summer drop-in series in the Lounge, discussing the sermon text. Stay for whatever time you can. Thank you to our leaders.

#### **Funeral Committee**

Our ministry to grieving families is an important part of our church. Several volunteers are needed to help set up, serve, and clean up after the funeral receptions, which are usually held in Fellowship Hall. Are you interested? We'd love to have you on our team! Contact leader Winnie Lyall at 856-305-4969 wlyall43@gmail.com.



Donations for Strawberry Festival now via Venmo (@fpcmoorestown).

Hamburger stand is cash only please.





# **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. Download the Church Center app to easily check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer.



Church office closed 1:00 pm Friday, May 26 and Monday, May 29.

#### **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 <a href="mailto:sewcrafty225@yahoo.com">sewcrafty225@yahoo.com</a> 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).



# Blast off to Vacation Bible School for an out-of-this-world adventure





The Middle School Youth Group (grades 7, 8) is helping at the Strawberry Festival Friday, June 2. Parents: Please text Liz Greene at (856) 220-0750 if you or your student can help.

And watch your email for a schedule of fun summer gettogethers for rising 7th and 8th graders.

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
iroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

# 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 (7th grade and older): we need you!

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

### **Sunday School**

Sunday School ended on Sunday,
May 21 with Teacher Appreciation
Sunday. THANK YOU to our 20222023 teachers for Sunday School,
Adult Spiritual Formation, Discovery
Bible Study, Lenten study groups,
middle school youth group, high
school youth group, nursery care,
Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Vacation Bible School and small group leaders.





Yes, registration is OPEN for <u>Vacation Bible School: "Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light"</u>. It's going to be an unforgettable week.