

First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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Rev. Wes Allen
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**Worship. Connect.
Serve. Devote.**

JOIN US on Sunday morning at church or via live stream as we worship the Lord with gladness:

9:00 am Traditional
10:30 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

FPC 
Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

June 4-17, 2023

Way of the Week 5: **Assume Positive Intent**

(June 4-10, 2023)

5. ASSUME POSITIVE INTENT. Decide to trust that other members are being fair, honest, and concerned for the well-being of our church. Set aside your own judgments and preconceived notions. Surrender the urge to criticize and judge – it doesn't help. Graciously give people the benefit of the doubt.

Ideas for Action: Take a "criticism inventory." Just how critical are you, really? Ask someone you love and trust to tell you how you're doing in this area. Try a 24-hour fast from all forms of criticism. No complaining or criticism for an entire day.



Way of the Week 6: **Forgive ... Again**

(June 11-17, 2023)

6. FORGIVE ... AGAIN. Just as God forgives us, heal relationships by extending forgiveness with grace and generosity. Forgive everyone everything. Start by praying for those you resent or hate. Ask for every blessing you would want for the one you're struggling to forgive.

Ideas for Action: Work on "dropping" the anger you have. Don't let it come between you and someone else. Stop bringing up the hurt in public or with friends. Stop nursing the memory of how you've been wronged.

Strawberry Festival is 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.

Remember: If you can't bake or buy cakes, you can donate to help defray our expenses. Donate via Venmo ([@fpcmoorestown](#)), new this year, cash or check. Hamburger stand is cash only please.

Be sure to check in at the volunteer table when you arrive for your shift. Welcome our guests to campus. It's going to be a great evening!





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



Legacy Giving Sunday **Sunday, June 4**

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

Baby Shower June 11th; **Baby Bottles Too**

In May we have been celebrating mothers and mothers to be, collecting change for [Options for Women](#) to help provide free ultrasounds to women. Please return filled baby bottles with change, cash or checks and bring them to church on **Sunday, June 11th**. Join us for a baby shower in Fellowship Hall at **11:45 am** to share brunch and hear speakers from Options. Visit <https://optionsnj.org/>. Note time 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 visit <https://www.unhcr.org/world-refugee-day>.



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

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. 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 whenever you can. Children's Sunday School is on summer break — we will see you in the fall!



Worship Survey

Thanks for filling out the survey from the Worship Committee, soliciting feedback on worship styles and worship times. [Please fill it out online](#). Contact Paul Booker if you didn't receive the eblast.

New Sermon Series

This summer, Pastors Spencer and Allen preach through the book of Hosea with a sermon series called, *"Hosea: God's Huge Heart."* In the message of the prophet Hosea, we encounter the passionate heart of God. We discover the jealous heart of God, the broken heart of God, the joyful heart of God. Hosea teaches us what God feels about us.

Drop-In and Discuss

Join us each Sunday morning this summer, beginning Sunday, June 4th, to discuss the day's sermon text. We will gather in the Lounge from **10:00-10:45 am**. Get your coffee and drop in for ten minutes or for forty. [See additional resources on the event page too!](#)

Garden Dedication

Join us for the Dedication and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden on **Monday, June 12 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 Sat-Sun times to harvest, water, and weed.**

Listen to 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.

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.



Sunday Check Ins

Please take a few seconds to check in and register your attendance each time you're here and/or watching on your device. This simple automated check-in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and provides important records for the Membership Team, staff and pastors, and can be quickly done from your phone. [Download the Church Center app](#) to check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer.



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.

**Thanks for wearing your
nametags in worship**

Grow The Kingdom

This spring and summer, church elders, deacons and trustees are meeting in six workgroups to develop strategic planning and church goals. Groups are addressing: (1) Normal Life of FPC Moorestown; (2) Outreach; (3) Visitors; (4) Wider Community; (5) Revenue Sources, and (6) 5-Year View.



**Church campus closed
Monday, June 19**

Fifth Sunday July 30

We will worship as one church family for our Fifth Sunday on **July 30**. Worship blends both contemporary and traditional elements, and will be held at **9:30 am**. There will be a New Member Reception by the Membership Committee and Deacons in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. Please greet our recent church family members.





FAMILY MINISTRY

Blast off to Vacation Bible School. It's an out-of-this-world adventure!



Middle School Youth Group



Middle Schoolers and Parents: Watch your email this summer for a schedule of fun get-togethers for rising 7th and 8th graders for youth group. We're looking forward to meeting you!

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

"Oh, how can I give you up, Israel? How can I let you go?"

- Hosea 11: 8

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

jroberts@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: Just \$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 is on summer break. Have a fantastic summer! We will see you in the fall for your new classes.

