First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart SpencerPastor/Head of Staff
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Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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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



First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

July 30-Aug. 11, 2023

Way of the Week 13: Open Doors for Others to

Lead

(July 30-August 5, 2023)

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*.

Ideas for Action: 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.

Way of the Week 14: Grow Faith

(August 6-12, 2023)

14. GROW FAITH. Take advantage of every chance you have to form your faith – through small groups, classes, and personal study. Be a disciple and look to learn from those who know more of the Bible and Christian life than you do, then look for opportunities to share what you've gained with someone else.

Ideas for Action: If you're not currently in a small group, contact the church office and ask for assistance in finding one. Ask for some time with someone whose faith you respect and pick their brains on their practices of faith formation.

5th Sunday Ice Cream Social & Member Celebration

After our 9:30 am Fifth Sunday worship on **July 30** we're having a party: a churchwide ice cream social and Recent Member Reception, coordinated by the Membership Committee and Deacons 5th Sunday Committee.

Join us in Fellowship Hall for ice cream sundaes as we celebrate everyone who joined our church family since 2020. Four years of Inquirers' classes will be welcomed at this special event. These members joined when church activities were restricted due to the pandemic, so they're still getting to know everyone. Come and say hello; introduce yourself and extend an invitation to a group or church activity that you enjoy.

Please see the insert in the July 30 worship guide with the names of our most recent members.

A Note from Your Stewardship Team

Church operations continue yearround, and your Stewardship Team reminds you that the traditional drop in giving during the summer months greatly affects the health of our church and those who rely on our support. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Please consider taking advantage of <u>online giving</u> — a safe, secure automatic withdrawal. It's simple to sign up. No more writing checks or searching for offering envelopes! Log onto <u>fpcmoorestown.org/giving</u> to get started and set up your preferences.



Will you help us set The Lord's Table?

The Worship Committee is asking for volunteers to help with Communion preparation beginning in October. The time commitment is minimal: 45-60 minutes several times during the year. Helpers work in a team and training is provided. High School students are also welcome to join and can gain community service hours Communion is our most sacred remembrance of our Lord and the sacrifice He has made for us. Let us try our best to prepare it in a manner pleasing

Him. Please prayerfully consider "joining hands" on the Communion Preparation Committee. Contact Vicki Terry (856-577-9248 or <u>vickiterry633@gmail.com</u>) for more information.



New Worship Times Begin Sept. 10

At its June meeting, Session approved a change in worship times for the start of the program year. Beginning Sunday, September 10, the Traditional service begins at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Spiritual Formation classes meet from 10:15 to 11:15 am. The Contemporary service starting time remains at 11:00 a.m. with 15 minutes of gathering music, prayer and the sharing of Wow moments.

The Worship Committee has spent the better part of a year weighing concerns that 8:30 a.m. is too early for many people. We hope that these new hours will help us to enjoy the gift of gathering together on Sundays for worship, study, prayer and fellowship.



NOTICE: We have been advised by the Moorestown Post Office that only mail listing our **P.O. Box 868** will be delivered. They no longer will deliver any mail addressed to 101 Bridgeboro Road.

Special Meeting of the Congregation

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, July 30, 2023**, immediately following the 9:30 AM worship service in the sanctuary.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect two Deacons and one Trustee to a term of office beginning June 1, 2023. See bios on our event page.

No other business may be brought before the congregation other than the preceding item.

Ann McBride, Clerk of Session

It's a Day at the Beach

Come help out at the Children's Fresh Air Home on Thursday, August 17 from 8 am-5 pm in North Wildwood. The campers are from UrbanPromise and we will be serving them lunch, and helping with their day at the beach. Carpool from the church; contact Linda Jagiela if you can help: 267.275.7582 cell/text.



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.

Sunday Check Ins

Please take a few seconds to check in and register your attendance each time you attend in person and/or watch on your device. This simple automated check-in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and records important data used by the Membership Team, staff and pastors, and is quickly done from your phone. Download the Church Center app to check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer.

Mustard Seed Garden

NEW: If you have home produce, you can now donate that to the garden as well. We can accept it at times when we have folks harvesting, which is every Thursday and Saturday morning from 9:00-9:40 am. Anyone wishing to donate produce can bring it to our garden or Our Lady of Good Counsel Heritage House (Main Street, back door, 9:45 am).

Our garden is producing more crops! We have lettuce, beets, string beans, small bell peppers, peas and summer squash. We deliver produce on the first and third Monday of the month to the Ministerium Food **Pantry** at Matthew's. Donations to defray expenses and support this ongoing ministry are gratefully accepted. You may give cash, checks or online (see drop down for the Garden) at any time.

Looking for new faces for the Funeral Committee to serve our families

Prayer on the Porch/ Thursday Prayer Service

For July and August, our Thursday Prayer Service in on hiatus. This summer all are encouraged to come and participate in Prayer on the Porch, a time of fellowship and on the first and third Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 pm on the Van Camp Porch: **REMAINING:** Thursday, Aug. 17. September TBD. In case of rain or excessive heat, we will pray in the Lounge.

Happy 135th Birthday First Presbyterian Church September 12, 2023

2023-24 Events

Please submit 2023-24 event dates, room requests, planning dates, activities and meeting schedules to the church office by **August 1**.

Discipleship Zoom Prayer

Thursdays from 12:30-1:00 p.m. Meeting ID: 863 2847 9075 Passcode: 960168

Kindly provide 48-72 hours notice to process a check request from the office

Have You Tried ALPHA?

ALPHA is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. ALPHA is run across the globe, and everyone is welcome, particularly newcomers. A new series of Wednesday evening dinner sessions will begin **Wednesday, Sept. 6**. Sign up online or right through the Church Center app.



Choir Rehearsals Begin in September

Opportunities are available for all ages and abilities in our music ministry. Come try it this year! Rehearsals begin after Labor Day for Adult Choir, Bell Choir, Primary Choir (Grades K-1), Junior Choir (Grades 2-4), Choristers (Grades 5-8) and Chapel Choir (Grades 9-12).



Children's Sunday School is on summer break — see you in September



YOU ARE INVITED:

August 28-September 1 5:30-7:30 pm Vacation Bible School First Methodist Church 446 E. Camden Avenue Moorestown, NJ (856) 235-0450 office

Visit: www.fmcmoorestown.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

"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, ×116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

John Roberts-interim director
724-967-1646 cell
iroberts@fpcmoorestown.org

NEW: White Water Rafting Trip

JOIN FPC MOORESTOWN FAMILIES for an exhilarating adventure down the Pocono Mountains' Lehigh River on Sat-

urday, August 5th. Feel the adrenaline rush as we navigate thrilling rapids and explore the beautiful river scenery on this dam release weekend! This is the perfect opportunity to bond with loved ones



and create core family memories. No prior experience is necessary; we'll be led by experienced guides who will ensure a safe and enjoyable trip for everyone. Minimum age to participate is 8 years old. Bring the whole family and invite your friends and their families for an unforgettable experience. Sign up and pay online on our events page.

To learn more visit the Whitewater Challengers FAQ page: https://whitewaterchallengers.com/lehigh-faq/

Dave Fauvell Hired as Youth Director

At its June meeting, Session approved the hiring of Dave Fauvell as our Youth Director. This is a part

-time, 20-hour a week position, but it is permanent. Dave has served and loved our young people for more than ten years as a youth leader. After Dan Wonneberger's departure in 2020, Dave capably stepped in and did a marvelous job keeping our youth ministry going during the pandemic.



Says Dave, ""As the youth director, my aim is to help equip and enable the members of FPC Moorestown to disciple the youth of our area. The idea is to prepare older believers then create opportunities for them to engage and love our youth. Many hands make light work and it also means that many people will experience the growth of God's kingdom first hand."

This year watch and listen for new ways to be involved with our Youth Ministry and Family Ministries area.