

**First Presbyterian Church**  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
**MAIL: P. O. Box 868**  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
[fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org)  
856.235.1688

**Rev. Stuart Spencer**  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
[sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org)

**Rev. Wes Allen**  
Associate Pastor  
[wallen@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:wallen@fpcmoorestown.org)

**Worship. Connect.  
Serve. Devote.**

JOIN US on Sunday morn-  
ing 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](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org)  
or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

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](mailto:jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org)  
856-235-1688, Ext. 133*

**Are you receiving our Friday  
e-blast with announce-  
ments, Connections, and  
upcoming events? If not,  
contact the [church office](#).**



# Connections

**FPC**  
Moorestown

**First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown**

**August 13-26, 2023**

## Way of the Week 15: Welcome Change (August 13-19, 2023)

**15. WELCOME CHANGE.** Be curious about new ideas, perspectives, and approaches. Get excited by the possibilities that change can bring. What worked in the past won't always work in the future, for God is doing new things.

**Ideas for Action:** This is a simple one to try. Sit in a different pew in the sanctuary or seat in Miller Commons next Sunday. See what happens.

**Read:** Mark 2: 22; Revelation 21: 6; 2 Corinthians 5: 17

## Way of the Week 16: Give Cheerfully (August 20-26, 2023)

**16. GIVE CHEERFULLY.** Rejoice, you get to give! Think of giving as a privilege rather than an obligation, a joy instead of a burden. As you consider all that's been entrusted to you – time, abilities and money – ask, "How is God calling me to share what I've been given?"

**Ideas for Action:** Consider making a special financial gift this week to the church or one of our mission partners. What else, besides money, can you give this week? How about your time or your forgiveness?

**Read:** 2 Corinthians 9: 7; Luke 6: 38

## Welcome Back Sunday September 10, 2023

**Fall Worship Times, Program Year Begins** — Recently Session approved a change in worship times for the start of the program year. **Beginning Sunday, Sept. 17**, the Traditional service begins at **9:00 a.m.** The Contemporary service remains at 11:00 a.m. with 15 minutes of gathering music, prayer and the sharing of Wow moments. Sunday School and Adult Spiritual Formation classes meet from 10:15-11:15 am. The Worship Committee hopes that these new hours will help all to enjoy the gift of gathering together on Sundays for worship, study, prayer and fellowship.

- ♦ **SEPT. 10: Combined Worship 9:30 am (Sanctuary)**
- ♦ Covered Dish Church Picnic Brunch after worship (see event page)
- ♦ Middle School youth group begins **Wednesday, Sept. 13** (grades 7-8)
- ♦ Education classes (Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation) begin **Sept. 17**.
- ♦ Crud Wars youth group kickoff is **Sunday, Sept. 17** (1-3 pm, grades 7-12)
- ♦ High School youth group begins **Sunday, Sept. 17** (grades 9-12)

## Adult Spiritual Formation Begins with Sermon on the Mount Study

For many, the Sermon on the Mount is the centerpiece of Jesus' teachings. In his sermon, as recorded by Matthew in chapters 5-7 of his Gospel, Jesus reveals the principles of what true discipleship looks like. If you desire to enhance your knowledge of scripture and grow closer to the Lord, you are invited to join Lissa Herman and Lorenzo Eagles as they lead this Fall study each Sunday morning in Fellowship Hall. Please register to attend via Church Center or by visiting the church website. There are no books required and you are guaranteed to learn a lot, even if you can only attend a few sessions.

Class will begin **Sunday, Sept. 17** and conclude **Nov. 19**. There is no church school on Oct. 29 for Church Has Left the Building. Consecration Sunday is a combined worship on Oct. 15.

## September 11 Service

On Monday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. we will gather at the cemetery cross for a service of remembrance, prayer and resurrection as we commemorate the 22nd anniversary of the deadliest terrorist attack in world history. This will be a solemn time for reflection, prayer, scripture reading, and song as we remember the 2,977 lives tragically taken from this world and the 20-year war that ensued. Participants are encouraged to bring a chair.



## Thursday Prayer Service

Our Thursday Prayer Service is set to return on **September 14** at 7:00 pm. *This service is live stream only.* If you have a prayer request, please forward to the church office by 9:00 a.m. Wednesdays.

## Presbyterian Women By-Law Update

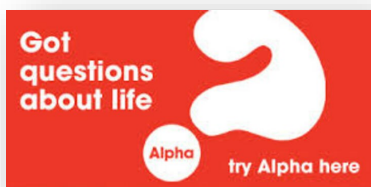
Pursuant to the by-laws of the Presbyterian Women committee, proposed changes to the by-laws (under which the community of women operate) must be posted 30 days prior to voting on the changes. Two items have been proposed for update to bring the by-laws into compliance with changes made by the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown.

- The job of Treasurer will be changed to match the current processes (see Article VII – Finances, Section 1)
- The name of the Presbytery will be changed from West Jersey to The Presbytery for Southern New Jersey

Members of PW will have the opportunity to vote during the Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women on Monday, September 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

## 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, particularly with those newer to church. ALPHA is run across the globe, and everyone is welcome, particularly newcomers. A new series of Wednesday evening sessions will begin **Wednesday, Sept. 6**. [Sign up online](#) or through the Church Center app. Wednesday meals with Family Dinner begin October 4th.



## Fall Prayer Retreat: Centering Prayer October 17-20, 2023

Pastor Spencer leads a [Fall Prayer Retreat](#) on Centering Prayer October 17-20 at Holy Cross Monastery (West Park, NY) using our study book, *Centering Prayer: Sitting Quietly in God's Presence Can Change Your Life*. Cost: \$305 with study book; \$290 without the book (purchase on your own).

[Online registration is now OPEN](#) on our event page, website, and through the Church Center app, or pick up a brochure at church to mail in. Spaces are limited this year; RSVP due **by Sunday, Sept. 10**.

### 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](http://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.

**September 12, 2023**

**Happy 135th Birthday FPC**

### Mustard Seed Garden

**NEW:** If you have home produce, you can now donate that to the garden. We can accept it at times we are 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 bountiful! 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 St. 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.*

***Have you noticed someone missing from church recently?  
Call them to re-connect***

### Prayer on the Porch

Our Thursday Prayer on the Porch gatherings will continue **Aug. 17, Sept. 7 and Sept. 21**. Join the Prayer Committee on the Van Camp Porch to pray for our church family.

### Discipleship Zoom Prayer

Thursdays from 12:30-1:00 p.m.

Meeting ID: 863 2847 9075

Passcode: 960168



### A Note of Thanks

*Thank you to the pastors, staff and congregation for your prayers, texts, cards and support these past months. Although Ellie is no longer with us, she will continue in our hearts forever. We are blessed to be surrounded by so much love and compassion during this difficult time.*

*Blessings to all,*

*Ginny and Jim Weber, Elizabeth and Rich Gainer*

### 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 [vickittery633@gmail.com](mailto:vickittery633@gmail.com)).

### Choir Rehearsals Begin

Opportunities are available for all ages and abilities in our music ministry. Come try it this year. Rehearsals begin the week of Sept. 11 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). Choirs are open to members of the local community.

# FAMILY MINISTRY

**We hope you're having an awesome summer. We have missed you!**

## Sunday School

Children's Sunday School returns on **Sunday, Sept. 17** from 10:15-11:15 am (*note new time*). We can't wait to see you.

## Register Soon for Fellowship Groups

Register online shortly for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (4th-6th), Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th) and High School Youth Group (9th-12th). Watch for information from group leaders as well as the Friday eblast. We're getting ready for an incredible year.

## Youth Group Kickoff

IT'S CRUD WARS! Join us for Crud Wars **Sunday, September 17th** from 1-3 p.m. for an incredibly cruddy and messy set of games! Students grades 7th-12th are welcome. Wear clothes you don't care about, they will become trashed!



**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 Dave Fauvell, youth 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](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:

**Dave Fauvell**

724-967-1646 cell

[jroberts@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:jroberts@fpcmoorestown.org)

## Bible Sunday September 17th

On Sunday, September 17th, children entering third grade will receive their Bibles during worship as a gift from their church. Bible Sunday is a special day in the life of our young people. Bibles will be presented at both worship services.

If you would like your student to receive a Bible, please [sign up online](#), through the Church Center app (Signups) or contact Holly Asciutto at [hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org). You may also call the church office at 856.235.1688. Please indicate (1) Child's name as you would like it to appear in their Bible, and (2) Which worship service you will be attending.



FPC  
Moorestown  
**Bible Sunday**  
for 3rd graders  
**September 17**

## Kids and Youth Groups Return

A new year of Youth Groups and Kids Groups is coming up fast. Our groups look forward to another year of activities and growing as God's people. Here are the start dates:

- ⇒ Middle School Youth Group (grades 7-8) on **Wednesday, Sept. 13th** (6:30-8:00 pm)
- ⇒ Crud Wars (grades 7-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 17th**
- ⇒ High School Youth Group dinners (grades 9-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 17th** (6:30-8:30 pm)
- ⇒ Family Dinner (all) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (6:00-7:00 pm), Miller Commons, \$5.00 per person
- ⇒ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (4:45-5:45 pm)
- ⇒ Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (6:30-7:30 pm)