

First Presbyterian Church
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fpcmoorestown.org
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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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](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
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

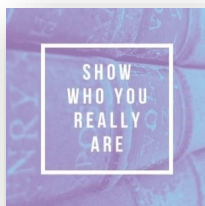
First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Aug. 27-Sept. 9, 2023

Way of the Week 17: Show Who You Really Are (Aug. 27-Sept. 2, 2023)

17. SHOW WHO YOU REALLY ARE. Our church is for "real" people. Bring your true self, including your joys, your sorrows, your fears, your strengths, and your weaknesses. God loves you as you are. Don't hide your struggles, failures or problems.

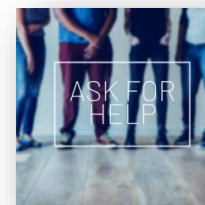
Ideas for Action: This week, sit down with or talk to another member by phone and share one area of struggle, failure or a fear you have.



Way of the Week 18: Ask For Help (Sept. 3-9, 2023)

18. ASK FOR HELP. Part of being a real and authentic member of the church is to acknowledge your weaknesses and be willing to ask for God's help and the support of others. None of us can go it alone. Vulnerability is a sign of strength and a gift to others.

Ideas for Action: First think about what you need help with right now. Then, share that need with someone else from our congregation this week.



Welcome Back Sunday ~ September 10, 2023

WE WILL KICK OFF our 2023-24 program year on **Sunday, September 10** with *Welcome Back Sunday*, a **9:30 a.m.** COMBINED blended worship in the sanctuary. Reconnect with friends from the summer and hear about the coming year, as we worship together as one church family.

After worship, we'll have a Covered Dish Church Picnic Brunch. We can enjoy a delicious spread, visit in the comfort of Fellowship Hall, and enjoy lively conversation and a kids craft. **Please bring to share: Last Name A-J:** Casserole or Egg Dish; **Last Name K-P:** Side Dish or Salad; **Last Name Q-S:** Bread or Rolls; **Last Name T-Z:** Dessert.

- ◆ Middle School youth group begins **Wednesday, Sept. 13** (grades 7-8)
- ◆ Crud Wars youth group kickoff is **Sunday, Sept. 17** (1-3 pm, grades 7-12)
- ◆ Worship Times: 9:00 am Traditional and 11:00 am Contemporary begin **Sept. 17**
- ◆ Education classes (Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation) begin **Sept. 17**.
- ◆ High School youth group begins **Sunday, Sept. 17** (grades 9-12)
- ◆ Pew envelopes for September 12 Fund are available in September



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.

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 on 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.

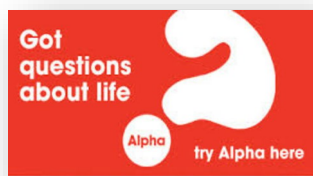
Presbyterian Women By-Law Update

Pursuant to the by-laws of the Presbyterian Women committee, proposed changes to the by-laws 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 FPC 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.

Church building CLOSED
Monday, Sept. 4 for Labor Day



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.

September 12th

Happy 135th Birthday First Presbyterian Church!
Wow, that's a lot of candles.

In honor of our church's founding on September 12th, members can donate to the future of our church by giving to the September 12 endowment fund. The fund is invested to earn income which helps to support the needs of our church. First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown was founded on September 12, 1888.



Look for special pew envelopes and a mailing from Pastor Stuart; place gifts in the offering or [give securely online.](#)

Communion Helpers

The Worship Committee is looking for a few volunteers to help with Communion preparation beginning in October. Time commitment is minimal: 45-60 minutes several times during the year. You'll work in a team and training is provided. High School students, you are welcome and can gain service hours. Communion is our most sacred remembrance of our Lord and the sacrifice He has made for us. Please consider "joining hands." Contact Vicki Terry (856-577-9248 or vickiterry633@gmail.com).

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

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

Fall Prayer Retreat

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. 9.**

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. Contact Joel Krott at jkrott@fpcmoorestown.org.

PW Fall Gathering

PW invites women of the church to its Fall Gathering on **Monday, Sept. 18 at 7:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall. There will be a brief business meeting, followed by speaker Arlita Winston introducing the Horizon Bible Study. Come share coffee, tea and desserts with Presbyterian Women. [Register online today.](#)

Prayer on the Porch

Join the Prayer Committee for Prayer on the Porch **Sept. 7** and **Sept. 21 at 7:00 pm** to pray for our church family. Van Camp Porch.

Malawi Trekkers Event

Wednesday, Aug. 30 (6:30 pm)

Fellowship Hall and Zoom

Come enjoy Malawi desserts and hear about the 10-day biking mission trip through Malawi by Pastor Stuart and Jim Dugan

Discipleship Zoom Prayer

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

Meeting ID: 863 2847 9075

Passcode: 960168

Fellowship Groups Are Back

We're back! Please sign up for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (Gr. 4-6), Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Group for 2023-24 so we can add you to our rosters. We're going to have an incredible year. [See the event page in Church Center.](#) (pg 4)



Upcoming Sermon Series Sept. 10

Consecration Sunday

Our stewardship series begins Sunday, Sept. 24 with Stewardship Moments, and leads us into a special combined worship event on Sunday on **October 15 at 9:30 a.m.** Make plans to attend worship and dedicate your financial gift for 2024. Church leaders are planning, budgeting and preparing for our coming year in ministry and these Estimates of Giving are critical to the planning process. More information soon. We can't wait to share it with you.

- Your Stewardship Team



We're getting ready for a fun-filled year. See you soon!

Sunday School Corner

Children's Sunday School returns on **Sunday, Sept. 17** from 10:15-11:15 am (*note new time*). Come meet your teachers. We will commission our teachers on Sept. 17 too.

Register for Fellowship Groups

Registration is OPEN for 2023-24 Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (4th-6th), Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th) and High School Youth Group (9th-12th). [Sign up online](#), and watch for news from group leaders as well as the Friday eblast. We're getting ready! (*See dates below*)

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! Contact Youth Director [Dave Fauvell](#) for info and [sign up online](#).



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

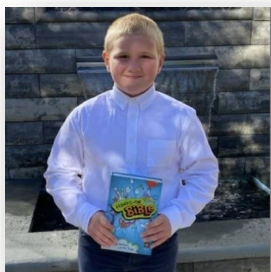
For Families and Children:
Holly Asciutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:
Dave Fauvell
724-967-1646 cell
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. 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](#) (gr. 7-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 17th** (1-3 pm)
- ⇒ High School Youth Group dinners (grades 9-12) on **Sunday, Sept. 17th** (6:30-8:30 pm); see [Dave Fauvell](#)
- ⇒ Family Dinner (all) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (6:00-7:00 pm), Miller Commons, \$7.00 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)