

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
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sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
wallen@fpcmoorestown.org

Worship. Connect.
Serve. Devote.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing - Psalm 100:2

9:00 am Traditional
11:00 am Contemporary
9:30 am 5th Sunday
Blended Worship

10:15-11:15 am
Education Hour

Worship streams live from each worship space. Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or [YouTube](#) or [Facebook](#).

Services are 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

October 1-7, 2023

Way of the Week 22: Rest and Reflect (Oct. 1-7, 2023)

22. REST AND REFLECT. Make time in your week to step back from work, school, and stressful demands. Since Christ has freed us, we no longer have to be obsessively driven. Take a walk, play, nap, meet up with friends, share a meal, or just take some time in solitude.

Ideas for Action: Can you make your Sunday more of a Sabbath day of rest for you and your family? Connect with God using worship music. Unplug from the devices for part or all of the day. Seek the joy of the Lord in Creation. Eat a meal together. Be silent with God and pray. Prioritize wholeness and rejuvenation in Christ.



Fall Into Rhythm With Our New Schedule

- ◆ **Worship Times:** 9:00 am Traditional and 11:00 am Contemporary
- ◆ **Education Hour 10:15-11:15 am:** Sunday School volunteers are needed
- ◆ Sunday School K-6th (classrooms)
- ◆ Middle School Sunday School (3rd Floor, grades 7-8)
- ◆ Adult Spiritual Formation (Fellowship Hall) - *Sermon on the Mount* series, high schoolers grades 9-12 also encouraged to attend

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 1st

TODAY our church joins other churches around the world to celebrate World Communion Sunday. That day will also mark our return to celebrating the Lord's Supper in the traditional way, as we did pre-pandemic (no packaged units). In the Sanctuary, elders will serve the congregation seated in the pews. The Contemporary service will offer Communion by Intinction. There will be a gluten-free option at both services. Please let the serving elder know that you need gluten-free bread and they will bring it to you. Juice served at both services will also be gluten-free.

Consecration Sunday

Our stewardship series began **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 (*information has been mailed, please review carefully*). This year's theme is "Our House, God's House" and celebrates the 100th anniversary of our church's home in the Collins mansion (1923). Church leaders are planning, budgeting and preparing for our coming year in ministry and your 2024 Estimates of Giving are critical to this planning process.

Afterwards we will enjoy a covered dish **Celebration Brunch** as we connect and laugh with one another. Play kickball for Team Stuart or Team Wes, or challenge each other in cornhole. Kids will have a fun craft too. *Please see your mailing, our event page or website for your requested dish to share.*

Fall Inquirers Class

Are you interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown and possibly joining the congregation? The Inquirers Class is for those interested in learning more about FPC Moorestown, and the Presbyterian Church as a whole. [Read more and sign up on our event page and website.](#) The three-part series will be held Wednesday, Oct. 18, Saturday, Oct. 21, and Sunday, Oct. 22, and new members will be welcomed Nov. 5.

Family Dinner Starts Oct. 4

Family Dinner will begin **Wednesday, Oct. 4** from 6-7 p.m. in Miller Commons. Cost is \$7.00 each, please pay at the door or pre-pay ahead for \$150 per family. [Sign up online](#) on the event page for payment or mail a check to the office. We also need volunteers to help set up and clean up. Contact Cheryl Gaskill at mybaseball-boys@yahoo.com. Menus will be posted to Facebook.

Thursday Evening Prayer Service Returns Oct. 12

We're continuing to see the Lord together on Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm with our pre-recorded Evening Prayer service, about 15 minutes in length. Do you have a prayer request, a joy or a concern to share? Email or text [Stuart Spencer](#) or the church staff by 9:00 am Wednesday; and the pastoral staff will share it.

Sermon on the Mount

Lissa Herman and Lorenzo Eagles lead this Fall study Sunday morning in Fellowship Hall for adults and high school students grades 9-12 (10:15-11:15 am). [Please register to attend via Church Center](#) or on the church website. There are no books required and you're guaranteed to learn a lot. Class is **Sept. 17-Nov. 19** (no class Oct. 15 Consecration Sunday or Oct. 29 Church Has Left The Building).

Stephen Ministry Training Class Begins

Have you ever considered becoming a Stephen minister? A new training class is starting **Monday, Oct. 9**. If you are not sure, we are happy to talk with you and answer your questions. Please reach out to Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or Pastor Wes Allen at 856-235-1688, x101. This is an important way to minister to others in our congregation. Class meets for 20 weeks. Sign up online at <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1873498>.

SAVE THE DATE

PW Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, November 11
10 am—3 pm, Miller Commons



Hymn Sing Outing October 5th

Road Trip! Join us on **Thursday, Oct. 5** for a Hymn Sing at [America's Keswick](#) in Whiting, New Jersey: **25th Season – Theme: Songs of Billy Graham & Bev Shea**. Spend the day in worship! We'll sing classic hymns, eat a delicious continental breakfast and a hearty lunch, listen to a great message, and hear a first-hand testimony about how God is working in the lives of those in Addiction Recovery Ministries. Carpool from FPC Moorestown at 7:45 AM (or meet us there). Continental breakfast begins at 9:00 AM. Program starts at 10:00 AM followed by a delicious lunch at 12 noon. **ONLY \$13 PER PERSON! Reservations are required. Please respond quickly as seats are limited.** [Sign up online](#) or contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Church Has Left The Building

This year's Church Has Left The Building will be Saturday, October 28 and Sunday, October 29. **Please plan to be involved in some capacity.** This year we will be tending to a few items

at "our house" at FPC Moorestown and Carol's House. On Sunday, we will begin with a **combined 5th Sunday worship** at **9:30 a.m.** before splitting up for the various Sunday projects. We welcome Luke Maxted as our guest preacher. [SIGN UP ONLINE](#) in our event page, through the Church Center app, or contact Wes Allen at wallen@fpcmoorestown.org or 856-235-1688, x101. We're looking forward to another special weekend of ministry. TIP: If you aren't available to help that day, contributions are needed and welcomed. [See our donate page](#) or give online to CHLTB.



**Family Dinner Starts Oct. 4
6:00 pm, Miller Commons
\$7.00 per person**

Prayer Vigil

The Prayer Committee will be sponsoring a 12-hour prayer vigil (30-minute time slots) on **Saturday, October 14th**, to pray for our Consecration Sunday emphasis and for Church Has Left the Building. [See our event page](#) and watch for sign ups soon. The vigil will begin at 5:00 am and end at 5:00 pm. There will also be two opportunities on Saturday and Sunday to pray for the Church Has Left The Building events Oct. 28-29.

Garden Celebration at the Fire Pit; S'mores

Gather around the church fire pit on **Friday, October 20th at 7:00 p.m.** and celebrate our first year of the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden. What a year it was. We learned together, developed plans, recruited a team, secured start-up funding, built the garden, fed the hungry and connected with the community and area churches. This event is open to anyone who would like to attend. People are encouraged to bring their lawn chairs and ingredients for s'mores. Some marshmallows and water bottles will be provided by the committee to share.

Sign up for 2024 Worship Flowers Donations

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.

December Mission Trip

A work team is needed to do quality assurance on the shoeboxes collected for Operation Christmas Child on December 4-7 in Baltimore. If you are interested in joining the team, contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Donate Care Packages

Staff Appreciation Oct. 8

Pastor Appreciation Sunday is celebrated annually on the second Sunday in October. This year that is **October 8, 2023**. Help us celebrate the ministry of Rev. Stuart Spencer, Rev. Wes Allen, and our program staff, by sending them a note of appreciation sharing your gratitude for their ministry and sharing kind words of support and recognition. You may bring a card with you to either service, or there will be blank thank you cards available in the Commons Lobby to write a note. Kids: they'd love to receive artwork or a picture from you too! On October 8th, baskets will be located in the Commons Lobby and in the Narthex to receive cards and notes for our clergy and program staff. [See event page for a complete staff listing.](#)



Trunk or Treat

Join our team at Bridge of Peace Community Church in Camden to celebrate with the kids and provide a safe Halloween experience. We will set up a table or two and hand out treats to the children on **Thursday, October 26th** from 6-7:15 pm. Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org for information. [Candy donations](#) are needed to hand out to the children. Over 300 ghosts and goblins have participated in this event in the past.

FAMILY MINISTRY

K-6th groups and Family Dinner begin ... Sunday School ... Acolytes

NEW: Acolyte Training

On **Sunday, October 1** at 10:15 am in Room 7 we will have an Acolyte Training for those interested in serving as an acolyte. We are resuming our acolyte ministry in October. Sign up online [on our event page](#) if you're interested!

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School is from **10:15-11:15 am** (*new time*). **NEW: SIGN UP ONLINE** for Sunday School. Middle School class (grades 7-8) meets on the 3rd Floor. High School class meets with the Adult Spiritual Formation class.

We are "Growing Young"

FPC Moorestown is looking for your support this year as we kick off our youth ministry. As Dave Fauvell begins his official part-time work with us, the Discipling Children and Youth Committee would like to ask the church to play a more prominent role in support of his work with our young people. How? Visit our [event page in Church Center](#) to learn more or [sign up to help on a brief form](#).



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: Grades 9-12,
Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm

Sermon Series Memory Verse

"Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself." (Ephesians 2: 20)

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

Middle School and High School:
Dave Fauvell
609-980-7885 call/text
dfauvell52@gmail.com

Kids and Youth Group Schedule

A new year of Youth Groups and Kids Groups is underway. We look forward to another year of activities and growing as God's people. **Please remember to REGISTER.** Younger groups and Family Dinner begin **Wednesday, Oct. 4:**

- ⇒ **Kingdom Kids (K-3rd)** Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm—starts Oct. 4
- ⇒ **Family Dinner** (all) Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm, Miller Commons, \$7.00 per person or \$150 for season (sign up online) —starts Oct. 4
- ⇒ **Crossing Zone** (grades 4-6) Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm — starts Oct. 4
- ⇒ **Middle School Youth Group** (grades 7-8) Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm, started Sept. 13
- ⇒ **High School Youth Group dinners** (grades 9-12) Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm; started Sept. 10

Register for Fellowship Groups

Parents: Please [sign up online](#) so we have accurate contact information. Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (gr. 4-6) and Family Dinner get underway **Wednesday, Oct. 4**. Watch for news for K-12 groups from group leaders, our Friday eblast and *Connections*.

Staff News

Angie Slane left her position with us in September. Angie was on the administrative staff in our office and joined us in 2021. We have enjoyed working with Angie and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Combined Worship Sundays

There will be no Sunday School or Adult Spiritual Formation on 5th Sunday/combined worship Sundays:

- ♦ October 15 (Consecration Sunday)
- ♦ October 29 (Church Has Left the Building)

Worship on combined Sundays will be at 9:30 a.m. Children may worship with their families.