

First Presbyterian Church
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fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
wallen@fpcmoorestown.org

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

*Worship the Lord with glad-
ness; 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 announce-
ments, Connections, and
upcoming events? If not,
contact the [church office](#).**



Connections

FPC 
Moorestown

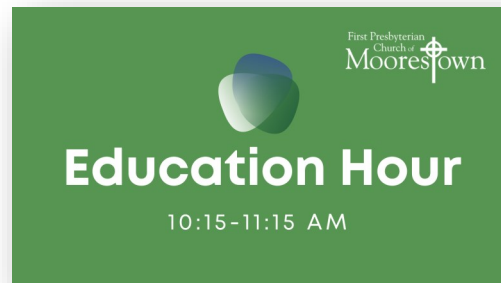
First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

September 24-30, 2023

Way of the Week 21: You're Sent, Now Go (Sept. 24-30, 2023)

21. YOU'RE SENT, NOW GO. We're blessed to be a blessing. God intends to use you to bless, heal, restore, and liberate a dark and hurting world. We're here for others: in our families and our community and in the world. Go to the need. Live missionally.

Ideas for Action: Check out the Missions tab on our website. Look at our local mission partners' websites for information and ideas for service. Contact Linda Jagiela, Director of Outreach, for additional suggestions. Make plans to go and serve ASAP.



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

On October 1, 2023, our church will join 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 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 (*information has been mailed*). 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.



We will enjoy a covered dish **Celebration Brunch** after the service as we connect and laugh with one another. Come play kickball for Team Stuart or Team Wes, or chal-

lenge each other in cornhole. Kids will have a fun craft too. Please bring the following dish to share:

- **Last Name A-G:** Dessert
- **H-L:** Bread, Rolls, Coffee Cake, Bagels
- **M-R:** Side Dish or Salad
- **S-Z:** Casserole, Main Dish or Egg Dish

Fall Inquirers Class

Are you interested in learning more about First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown and possibly joining the congregation? The Membership Committee extends an invitation to you to attend its Fall Inquirers Class in October. 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.

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

For many, the Sermon on the Mount is the center of Jesus' teachings. Lissa Herman and Lorenzo Eagles lead this Fall study Sunday morning in Fellowship Hall for adults and high school students grades 9-12. [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 or Oct. 29 for combined worship.)

Stephen Ministry Training Class Begins **Monday, October 9**

Your Stephen Ministry team is excited about the new class that is starting in October. If you have ever considered becoming a Stephen Minister, call Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474 or reach out to Pastor Wes Allen and let us know you are interested. If you are not sure, we are happy to talk with you and answer your questions. This is an important way to minister to others in our congregation.

Class meets for 20 weeks. Please sign up online at <https://fpcmoorestown.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1873498>.

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.



**Communion Workshop
Sunday, Sept. 24 ~ 10:15 am
(3rd grade and older)**

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.

**December 4-7 Mission Trip to
Baltimore for Operation
Christmas Child assistance**

Fellowship Groups K-12

PARENTS: Sign ups are OPEN for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (Gr. 4-6), Middle School Youth Group and High School Youth Group for 2023-24. *Please sign your children up so we can update our rosters with accurate information.* [See the event page in Church Center.](#) Middle school and high school activities have started; younger groups for Kingdom Kids and Crossing Zone begin **October 4** (see pg 4)

September 12th Fund

Yes, you can still submit a gift for the Sept. 12 Fund, celebrating the 135th birthday of First Presbyterian Church, founded on September 12, 1888. The fund is invested to earn income which helps to support the needs of our church. Place gifts in the offering or [give securely online](#).

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.

[See ways to help support our youth ministry](#) (see page 4)

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.](#)



FAMILY MINISTRY

K-12 groups begin ... Sunday School ... Communion Workshop ... Acolytes

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](#) so we have accurate contact information, and watch for news from group leaders and our Friday eblast.

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School returned on **Sunday, Sept. 17** 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 Schoolers, please join us in the adult 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: contact Dave Fauvell, youth director

Sermon Series Memory Verse

Memory Verse: Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it!
(Hebrews 13: 2)

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

Kids and Youth Groups Return

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. Here are the age group 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](#)
- ⇒ Kingdom Kids (K-3rd) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (4:45-5:45 pm)
- ⇒ Family Dinner (all) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (6:00-7:00 pm), Miller Commons, \$7.00 per person
- ⇒ Crossing Zone (grades 4-6) on **Wednesday, October 4th** (6:30-7:30 pm)

NEW: Communion Workshop Sept. 24

On **Sunday, September 24th at 10:15 am**, children interested in learning about communion and the Lord's Supper may attend a Communion Workshop during the Education Hour. Room 6, ages third grade and older.



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 early October. Sign up online [on our event page](#) or contact Holly Asciutto if you're interested.

Staff News

Angie Slane has indicated that she will be leaving her position with us in September. Angie was on the administrative staff in the church office and joined us in 2021. We have enjoyed working with Angie and wish her all the best in her retirement.