

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
MAIL: P. O. Box 868
Moorestown, NJ 08057
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

October 22-28, 2023

Way of the Week 25:

Rejoice Always

(October 22-28, 2023)

25. REJOICE ALWAYS. The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

Ideas for Action: Throw a party for the coming weekend and invite a couple of individuals or families from the church over to celebrate. Don't forget the cake! What's the occasion? The joy of knowing and serving Jesus and belonging to our church family are reasons enough.



Church Has Left The Building / 5th Sunday

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 heading out to serve. 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 look 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 and purchase \$5 Care Packages.

SEE INSERT in Sunday's worship guide for a listing of projects.

Adult Spiritual Formation

There is no Adult Spiritual Formation class (Sermon on the Mount) on Sunday, Oct. 29 due to Church Has Left the Building. Series ends Nov. 19. On Nov. 26 we will feature a discussion from the recent Grow The Kingdom strategy meetings. Beginning Dec. 3, Lissa Herman leads a 3-week Advent study. Watch for details and sign up information. Adult Spiritual Formation meets 10:15-11:15 am.

Missing someone from church? Give them a call.

Thursday Evening Prayer Service

We continue 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.

Garden Celebration Moved to November 3rd

RESCHEDULED: We will gather around our church fire pit on **Friday, Nov. 3rd at 7:00 p.m.** and celebrate our first year of the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden. What a year it was! All are invited! Please bring a lawn chair and own ingredients for s'mores. Some marshmallows and water bottles will be provided by the committee to share.

Preschool Book Fair

Step by Step Preschool is having a Book Fair the week of November 13. The Fair will be open **Wednesday, Nov. 15** so church members and kids can also shop. Books make great holiday gifts.

Accounting Note

Please note the church office prepares and issues checks on Thursday each week. Please submit any receipts and paperwork to Norman Vandergrift by end of the day Wednesday for check requests.

PW Holiday Bazaar

- NEW! Presbyterian Women are holding a Holiday Bazaar on **Saturday, November 11** from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Please start gathering items, sign up to help, and pray for the success of our endeavor.
- Proceeds support local ministries serving women and children in acute need.
- Look for sign up sheets in the Commons Lobby
- Boxes for donations will be in the Commons Lobby beginning **Sunday, Oct. 15**
- We need Christmas fabric for making holiday ornaments. Material is needed by **Sunday, Oct. 22**. Please contact Edith McFalls at 856-905-8749 or Fran Green at 856-905-3075.

PW Holiday Bazaar
Saturday, Nov. 11
10 am—3 pm



Consecration Sunday News

THANK YOU to everyone who came to Consecration Sunday and the Celebration Brunch on October 15. What a great day! We worshipped, connected, ate, pledged and reveled in God's handiwork through FPC Moorestown. Members prayerfully dedicated their weekly, monthly or annual financial commitments for 2024. We're off to a good start. We've received 137 pledges as of Oct. 21 en route to our goal of having each member respond.

If you were not able to be here, we missed you. To assist with budget work, we ask that all estimates be returned **by November 1**. Kindly submit your 2024 Estimate of Giving [securely online](#), mail, drop off at church, call in, or place in the offering plate.

American Red Cross Blood Drive Wednesday, November 1

It is time to give thanks for giving your life sustaining blood! This is now more important than ever as donations have dropped and the need is great. We hope to see you there!

- **Date:** Wednesday, November 1
- **Time:** 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
- **Location:** Miller Commons
- **Sign up:** at the Lobby Desk, or online at [Red-CrossBlood.org](#) and enter First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown.
- Contact Deborah Heller at (856) 273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net.

Save a Life and Donate

December Mission Trip

LAST CALL: 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'd like to join the team, contact Linda at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Donate \$5.00 Care Packages for CHLTB Project (online and VENMO too!)

Pastor Study Leave

Pastor Spencer will be away on study leave from Oct. 30-Nov. 6. For pastoral care please contact Rev. Wes Allen (Ext. 101) or the church office.

Deacon Sunday

Nov. 19 is Deacon Sunday and the Deacons ask that you prayerfully consider gifts to their Deacons Fund. The Board of Deacons reaches out to our congregation and community with local benevolence. Give securely online at www.fpcmoorestown.org or designate "Deacons Fund" on the memo line of checks. Look for blue envelopes in offering boxes and in pews.

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.

Volunteer for Operation Christmas Child Drop Off

Our church is excited to be a drop off site for shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child this year! We need several volunteers to be greeters, runners and Prayer Warriors for the drop offs Nov. 13-20, which will be in the Commons Lobby. Be sure and pick up your own box to fill for a boy or girl and make their holidays a little brighter. *Sign up on the Church Center event page.*

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 the past.

Building Security Enhanced

New entrance keypads and intercoms have been installed on the doors in the Commons Lobby. These will become active **Monday, Oct. 30**. This will alleviate the need for keys to the Church thereby increasing security and convenience (if you have a key, it will still work). Each member of the congregation will be issued a four-digit PIN via email with instructions. Each group using the facility will also be issued a four-digit PIN. Periodically these codes will be changed and everyone will be notified. Any questions please reach out to the church office at (856) 235-1688.

WJCMS Beginners and Masters Concert

Sunday, October 22 (7:30 pm)

Treat yourself to classical symphonies from Mozart and Haydn as the West Jersey Chamber Music Society opens its 2023-24 season. Soloist Edward Schultz shines in C.P.E. Bach's dazzling Flute Concerto in D minor. *Tickets:* \$28 (discounts for seniors and subscribers), students 18 & under FREE. Visit wjcms.org or 856-291-6673. NEW: Watch the concert live stream for just \$5.00.

Choral Concert Nov. 5th

COMING: Our 59th Series of *Special Events* presents local young, gifted musicians performing songs and instrumental works all to the glory of God. The Choristers and Chapel Choirs will also be featured. A free will offering will be received. 7:00 pm Sanctuary

Poinsettia Sales November 5, 12, 19

Watch for order forms online and in *Connections*. Poinsettias are \$15.

Kitchen Committee

We are forming a Kitchen Committee to ensure that the church's kitchen is kept neat and organized and foods left in the kitchen are either used or disposed of properly. We will meet once a month for an hour or two and give the kitchen and supplies a quick overhaul. Would you like to help? Please contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Watch for information for the Deacons online gift drive to support holiday giving for those in need

FAMILY MINISTRY

No Sunday School on October 29 (Church Has Left The Building)

Looking for Acolytes

The Worship Committee is resuming this ministry. [Please sign your child up online](#) to serve as an acolyte. Give it a try! Questions? Contact [Holly Asciutto](#).

Sunday School

Children's Sunday School (K-6th) is from **10:15-11:15 am**. [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. A big THANK YOU to our 2023-2024 Sunday School teachers.

Youth News

FPC Moorestown is looking for support as we reinvigorate our youth ministry. Visit our [event page in Church Center](#) and see our brief form to sign up.

HEY HIGH SCHOOLERS! IT'S RETREAT TIME!

A meaningful and FUN winter weekend awaits ...

December 1-3, 2023

[High School Retreat with Young Life](#)

Lake Champion Young Life Camp (NY)

[Visit our event page on Church Center](#) to register

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

Our Youth Groups and Kids Groups are underway and we are having fun together as we grow as God's people. All groups are open to the local community. Bring a friend.

- ⇒ **Kingdom Kids (K-3rd)** Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 pm
(Leader: Holly Asciutto)
- ⇒ **Family Dinner** (church-wide) Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 pm, Miller Commons, \$7.00 per person or \$150 for season ([sign up online](#), Leader: Holly Asciutto)
- ⇒ **Crossing Zone** (grades 4-6) Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 pm
(Leader: Holly Asciutto)
- ⇒ **Middle School Youth Group** (grades 7-8) Wednesdays 6:30-8:00 pm (Leader: Dave Fauvell)
- ⇒ **High School Youth Group dinners** (grades 9-12) Sundays 6:30-8:30 pm (Leader: Dave Fauvell)

Register for Fellowship Groups

Parents: Please remember to [sign up online](#) so we have accurate contact information for your children and our groups. Watch for news for all K-12 groups from team leaders, via emails, our Friday eblast and *Connections*.



Advent Activities

The First Sunday in Advent is **Sunday, Dec. 3**. Watch this page, the Friday eblast, FPC Family Facebook page and website for information about a special family Advent event Dec. 2 as well as Advent-in-a-Bag devotionals.