

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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fpcmoorestown.org
856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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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

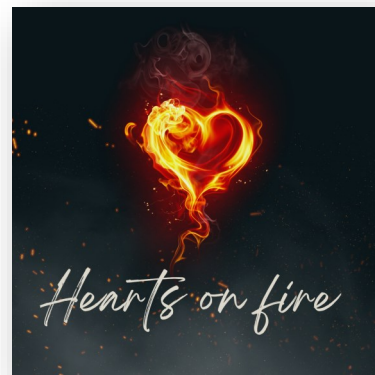
First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

November 12-18, 2023

Way of the Week 3: Listen Generously (November 12-18, 2023)

3. LISTEN GENEROUSLY. Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand.

Ideas for Action: Put aside phones and laptops. Turn off the TV or computer and face someone you love. Focus on what the other is saying; not on what you want to say. Be careful that you're not interrupting because you're not listening to them.



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 lots of volunteers to be Greeters, Runners, Prayer Warriors and Youth/Volunteers. Drop offs will be in the Commons Lobby. We will be accepting boxes from the public **November 13-20** and there are shifts to fit every schedule. [Sign up online](#) (see Friday eblast and website too) or contact Linda Jagiela:

- Monday, Nov. 13: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- Tuesday, Nov. 14: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- Wednesday, Nov. 15: 9 am - Noon
- Thursday, Nov. 16: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- Friday, Nov. 17: 3-5 pm, 5-7 pm
- Saturday, Nov. 18: Noon-2 pm
- Sunday, Nov. 19: Noon-2 pm
- Monday, Nov. 20: 9 am-Noon (load the truck)

[Martin Bass To Retire](#)

It is with both gratitude and sadness that we share the upcoming retirement of our beloved Contemporary Worship Leader, **Martin Bass**. Martin will conclude his six-year tenure with us on **Sunday, November 26th**. Martin's journey has been marked by dedication, passion and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Please join us on Martin's final Sunday, Nov. 26th, to express your appreciation and well wishes. As is customary, we encourage congregants to bring in cards and notes of appreciation for Martin and his wife, Christine Bass, who too has been an integral part of the Praise Band. A love gift will be collected for Martin, and we encourage any checks or financial gifts be made directly to him.

[See our event page](#) for the full letter from Pastor Wes Allen.

[Preschool Book Fair](#)

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

Missing someone from church? Give them a call.

[Looking for Advent Candle Lighters](#)

Would your family like to light one of the Advent wreaths during Advent? The Worship Committee is looking for individuals for both 9:00 a.m. traditional and 11:00 a.m. contemporary services for the four weeks of Advent **December 3, 10, 17 and 24**, as well as four Christmas Eve services. Contact Paul Booker at pbooker31@gmail.com or (856) 816-5121.



[2024 Estimates](#)

Thank You to everyone who has submitted their financial commitments for 2024. Our goal is to have each member respond. As of Nov. 10, we've received 167 pledges. Last year we received 196 pledges.

To assist with 2024 budget work, we ask that all estimates be returned this week. No amount is too small and all estimates are welcomed. Kindly submit your 2024 Estimate of Giving [securely online](#), mail, drop off at church, call in, or place in the offering plate.

[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.

[Adult Spiritual Formation](#)

10:15-11:15 am, Fellowship Hall

The current series on the Sermon on the Mount concludes **Nov. 19**.

On **Sunday, Nov. 26** all are invited to a [Grow The Kingdom Town Hall Meeting](#) summarizing recent *Grow The Kingdom* strategy meetings. Read a letter from Pastor Stuart on the event page/ebblast.

Dec. 3, 10 & 17th Lissa Herman leads an Advent study ["A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus."](#) See more details and sign up on the Church Center event page or website. Meets 10:15-11:15 am in Fellowship Hall.

[Longest Night Service](#)

This unique service provides peace to those dealing with grief, illness, anxiety or depression this holiday season who may not feel the joy or celebration seen in others. This event will be held on **Sunday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m.** and includes elements from a Service of Remembrance, including communion. Please share this event with those you know who might need a quiet place in the rush of December, an authentic respite from busy holiday activities, or who may have experienced a loss. *If you know someone you would like us to invite to this service, please provide their name and address to Alison Mackey in the office so we may send them an invitation letter. Contact Alison at 856.235.1688, x113 or amackey@fpcmoorestown.org.*

Poinsettia Sales

November 5, 12, 19

Order forms are in worship guides and also available online. Poinsettias are \$15.00. Poinsettias will be displayed in both worship spaces on **Sunday, Dec. 17** and available to take home that day. Can you help deliver poinsettias to our less mobile members? Please contact Jan Martin in the church office.



Sunday Check Ins

Please check in and register your attendance each time you attend in person and/or watch on your device. This simple check-in replaces the Friendship sign-in pads and records important data for the staff and Membership Team. [Download the Church Center app](#) to check in. If you need help, please see the volunteer.

November Session packet information due Wednesday, Nov. 22 due to Thanksgiving

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? Contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

**High Schoolers:
Sign up for the Dec. 1-3 High School Winter Retreat to Lake Champion (NY)**

Thanksgiving Postcards

Included in worship bulletins on **Sunday, Nov. 19** will be our traditional Thanksgiving postcards. Fill in the name and address of someone you are grateful for and wish to tell, and mail from your home, or place addressed postcards in the offering plate for the church to mail. *Postcards given to the church office will be mailed on **Monday, Nov. 20** so they arrive in time for Thanksgiving.*



*Veterans Day
November 11, 2023*

Building Security Enhanced

New entrance keypads and intercoms have been installed on the doors in the Commons Lobby. This will alleviate the need for keys to the Church thereby increasing security and convenience (if you have a key, it will still work). Members of the congregation were emailed a four-digit PIN and instructions. Each group using the facility has also been issued a separate four-digit PIN. Periodically codes will be changed and everyone will be notified. Any questions or if you did not receive the email, please reach out to the church office. Doors will be open for worship, church activities and choir rehearsals.



DBS Refresher

A refresher class is planned **Nov. 18** for all who have done the Discovery Bible Study (DBS) leadership training in the past few years as well as anyone who is interested in learning more about this program to make disciples and help others learn more about God. Sign up online. Light breakfast. Contact Pam Engle or Joyce Peacock.

***Thank you for remembering
the church in your
year-end giving***

Advent Guide

Copies of the *2023 Advent Activity Guide* will soon be available at church and online, detailing programming information for the season's events and special dates.

2023 Advent Devotional

Give yourself the gift of God's presence in your life this Advent as together we prepare for the coming of Christ. A special Advent devotional resource will be used this season and can be picked up at church or downloaded from our website and event page. Prepared by the Prayer and Discipleship Committee, this devotional begins on **December 1** and ends **December 25th**, Christmas Day. The daily devotional is written by members and friends of the congregation. The devotional offers daily scripture readings combined with short reflections, Biblical stories and guided prayers. The theme is based on the four Advent Candles and their meanings.

**Office closed
Nov. 23 & 24
for Thanksgiving**





FAMILY MINISTRY

Learning and growing together with our church family

Thanksgiving Schedule

Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Middle School Youth Group and Family Dinner will NOT MEET **Wednesday, Nov. 22** for the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be no High School Youth Group on **Sunday, Nov. 26th**.

Looking for Acolytes; Candle Lighters

The Worship Committee is resuming this ministry. [Please sign your child up online](#) to serve as an acolyte. We are also looking for folks to light the Advent wreaths **Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24** and for 4 Christmas Eve services. Contact Paul Booker.

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)

REGISTER NOW on our [event page on Church Center](#)

Sermon Series Memory Verse

They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road, while He was opening the Scriptures to us?"

(Luke 24:32)

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

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

NEW: Advent Experience Box

Sunday, December 3rd is the First Sunday in Advent. As we prepare ourselves for Christmas, families are encouraged to pick up the new *Advent Experience Box*. Pick a time to sit down together and follow the box's devotional guide and family activities. Everything you need is included for you to make memories and prepare your hearts for Baby Jesus. Boxes will be available for pick up in the Commons Lobby beginning **Wednesday, Nov. 29** (*ONE box per family please*). Try to remember the devotion throughout the week and focus on the lesson it teaches. For questions contact Holly Asciutto or the church office at 856.235.1688.

Sunday School for All Ages

Children's Sunday School (K-6th) is from 10:15-11:15 am. [SIGN UP ONLINE](#) for Sunday School. **Middle School** class (grades 7-8) meets on the 3rd Floor. **High School** class (grades 9-12) meets with the Adult Spiritual Formation class. Nursery care is provided during the Education Hour.

"The Miracle of Jesus: A Christmas Event for Families"

Saturday, Dec. 2 from 2:00-3:30 pm

Have you ever wondered what it was like when Jesus was born? Be transported back in time to the town of Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Stroll through exciting shoppes and sites in Bethlehem, meeting friends of Jesus who share amazing details about his birth and life. Families of all ages will be amazed at the authentic, multisensory experiences they'll find in this village. The event is free but please REGISTER on our event page to attend.

Family Dinner

Don't feel like cooking? Family Dinner is held Wednesdays from 6-7 pm in Miller Commons and everyone is invited. Cost is \$7.00 per person, please pay at the door or use the QR code. Families can also pre-pay for \$150 per family online or mail a check. We also need several volunteers to help set up and clean up each week. Contact Cheryl Gaskill at mybaseballboys@yahoo.com. Menus are posted to Facebook weekly. Last Family Dinner of 2023 is Dec. 13.