

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

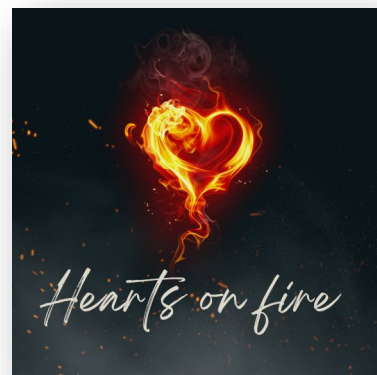
First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

November 5-11, 2023

Way of the Week 2: Speak the Truth with Love (November 5-11, 2023)

2. SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE. Speak honestly and directly in a way that clearly reflects love and support for one another. Be courageous enough to say what needs to be said, even when it's difficult. Address issues directly with those who are involved or affected; speak to, not about, others.

Ideas for Action: Is there a difficult conversation you've been delaying? Is there someone you've been talking about instead of being direct? Pray for courage and grace to have the conversation, in person, if possible.



Sunday, November 5th
Daylight Saving Time ends

Martin Bass To Retire in November

IT IS WITH both gratitude and sadness that we announce the upcoming retirement of our beloved Worship Leader, **Martin Bass**. After much contemplation and prayer, Martin has shared that he will be concluding his six-year tenure as the Worship Leader for our contemporary service on **Sunday, November 26th**. Martin's journey with us has been nothing short of remarkable, marked by dedication, passion and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

We extend our warmest wishes for a retirement filled with joy, peace, and the fulfillment of all his heart's desires. As is customary, you are invited to join us on Martin's final Sunday, November 26th, to express your appreciation and well-wishes. 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 worship, playing the keyboard and providing vocals on Sunday mornings. On this special day, 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.

PW Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 11

- NEW! Presbyterian Women are holding a Holiday Bazaar on **Saturday, November 11** from 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Please gather items, sign up to help, and pray for the success of our endeavor.
- Proceeds support local ministries serving women and children in acute need.
- SIGN UP to help in the Commons Lobby (see table)
- Boxes for donations are available in the Commons Lobby

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.

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.

Adult Spiritual Formation

On **Nov. 26** we will feature a special forum summarizing the recent Grow The Kingdom strategy meetings. **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](#). Meets 10:15-11:15 am in FH.

Missing someone from church? Give them a call.

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.

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 the Lord's Supper. Please share this event with those you know who might need a quiet place in the rush of December, an authentic respite in the midst of busy holiday activities, or with those who 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 church office so we may send them an invitation letter. Contact Alison at 856.235.1688, x113 or amackey@fpcmoorestown.org.

Consecration Sunday Update

THANK YOU to everyone who came to Consecration Sunday and the Celebration Brunch on October 15. What a great day! Members dedicated their weekly, monthly or annual financial commitments for 2024. We've received 156 pledges as of November 3; our goal is to have each member respond. Last year we received 196 pledges.

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

-- Stewardship Committee

Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli to Retire

The Rev. Dr. Debby Brincivalli is retiring December 31, 2023 after 38 years in ministry. For the last 15 years, she has served as the Executive Presbyter, first of the West Jersey Presbytery, and now the Presbytery **For** Southern New Jersey.

The Presbytery would like to shower her with cards and notes compiled into a book. Please send your card or note by **November 10th** to **Virginia Magnus, Attn Debby, 19 Elderberry Dr, Medford, NJ 08055** or vmagnus333@aol.com. The opportunity is also being provided to give Debby a monetary gift. Please send monetary gifts to the Presbytery office, **c/o Norma, 1701 Sycamore Street, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035**.

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). **Members of the congregation have been emailed a four-digit PIN and instructions.** Each group using the facility has also been issued a four-digit PIN. Periodically these 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.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Church Has Left The Building!

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 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. Earn service hours!*

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 Manger Sunday **Dec. 17** and available to take home that day.



Young Musicians Concert November 5th (7:00 pm)

Our 59th Series of *Special Events* presents local young, gifted musicians performing songs and instrumental works all to the glory of God in the [Young Musicians Concert](#). The Choristers and Chapel Choirs will also be featured. A free will offering will be received. 7:00 pm Sanctuary, live stream available

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 at 856.235.1688.

Deacon Sunday News

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 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? Please contact Linda Jagiela at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Watch for information for the Deacons online gift drive to support local families in need

We Give Thanks

Included in worship bulletins in mid-November 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.

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.



*Veterans Day
November 11, 2023*



FAMILY MINISTRY

Learning and growing together as a 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

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](#).

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 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

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.

Family Activity: 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 when the family can 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. May Emmanuel, God with us, guide you and bless you this Christmas season. For questions contact Holly Asciutto or the church office at 856.235.1688.

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. Families can 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 mybaseball-boys@yahoo.com. Menus are posted to Facebook weekly.

Journey to Bethlehem

Watch this page, the Friday eblast, FPC Family Facebook page and website for information about a special family Advent event **Saturday, Dec. 2** Journey to Bethlehem.



Like FPC Family Ministries on Facebook!