

**First Presbyterian Church**  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
**MAIL: P. O. Box 868**  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
[fpcmoorestown.org](http://fpcmoorestown.org)  
856.235.1688

**Rev. Stuart Spencer**  
Pastor/Head of Staff  
[sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org)

**Rev. Wes Allen**  
Associate Pastor  
[wallen@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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**

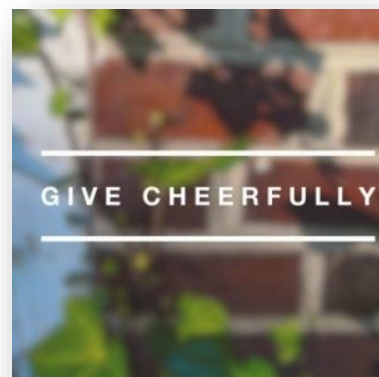
**February 11-17, 2024**

## **Way of the Week 16:** **Give Cheerfully**

(February 11-17, 2024)

**16. GIVE CHEERFULLY.** Rejoice, you get to give! Think of giving as a privilege rather than an obligation, a joy instead of a burden. As you consider all that's been entrusted to you – time, abilities and money – ask, "How is God calling me to share what I've been given?"

**Ideas for Action:** Consider making a special financial gift this week to the church or one of our mission partners. What else, besides money, can you give this week? How about your time or your forgiveness?



**Sunday, February 11, 2024**

### **This is Deacon Sunday**

THE DEACONS ask that you prayerfully consider contributing to the Deacons Fund for 2024. The Board of Deacons is empowered by Session and PC(USA) governance to serve the community with compassion as witnesses to "the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress" (G.2.0201).

### **GTK Commitment Sunday**

As we commit to growing God's Kingdom, every member and friend of FPC Moorestown is invited into a covenant with four commitments: I Will Pray, Invite, Serve and Give. Be with us for *Grow The Kingdom Commitment Sunday February 11*, where we will dedicate our commitments. Be sure and visit our special Grow The Kingdom page on our website: <https://www.fpcmoorestown.org/grow-the-kingdom/>.

*Read a letter from Pastor Stuart ...*

### Per Capita 2024

February is Per Capita time. The Stewardship Committee asks you to please cover your share of **\$38.75** per member. Details have been mailed to members regarding this annual gift. As Presbyterians, we are a *connectional church*. This "per member" contribution of \$38.75 above one's pledge supports the General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery and our church is required to pay this.

If you do NOT wish the church to pay your Per Capita, you must [submit an opt-out form](#) online. Last year, our church paid \$20,973 from operating funds for non-responding members. *Please note not responding is NOT the same as opting out. Due February 29th.*



### Lenten Study Begins

[Sign up online](#) on the event page, in Signups on the Church Center app, on our [website](#) or contact [Alison Mackey](#) at 856.235.1688 x113.

Our Lenten small group study will be "Meeting Jesus at the Table." The study begins the week of Feb. 11th, and explores numerous instances where Jesus shares a meal with his disciples, friends, tax collectors, and even Pharisees. Eight insightful chapters dive into biblical narratives, and offer thought-provoking queries and reflection. As we consider what it means to "Grow the Kingdom," this study helps us reflect on Christ's personal invitation to each one of us through Holy Communion, our response to this invitation and Christ's challenge to be discipleship-minded Christians who, in turn, go out and make disciples.

**Study books** are available in the Commons Lobby and church office for \$13. Contact [Alison Mackey](#) in the church office.

### February Food Drive

Throughout February, we are hosting a food drive for the Ministerium pantry at St. Matthew Lutheran Church. The Food Pantry is in dire need of food for distribution to hungry families in our area, and supports 40-50 families in the Moorestown, Mt. Laurel, Maple Shade, Delran, Medford areas. The need is great in our community. Please take our challenge to bring three food items every time you come to FPC Moorestown for church, meetings, rehearsals or fellowship. Help us address food insecurity in our community. See our [Church Center event page](#) and website for a list of suggested items to bring.



### New: Winter Inquirers Class

ARE YOU INTERESTED in possibly joining the congregation? The Inquirers Class is for those who want to learn more about First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown and the Presbyterian church as a whole. [Read more and sign up on our Church Center event page and website.](#)

The three-part series will be held **Wednesday, Feb. 28** (7:30 pm, please join us as our guest for Family Dinner 6-7 pm beforehand), **Saturday, March 2** (8:30 am-noon), and **Sunday, March 3** to meet with Session. We are excited to meet you.



### Lent and Easter Worship Schedule

- ♦ **Wednesday, Feb. 14:** Ash Wednesday, 7:00 pm, Stuart Spencer leads (see page 4 for Wednesday activities)
- ♦ **Thursday, March 28:** Maundy Thursday Drama "At The Table" & Communion, 7:00 pm, Miller Commons, Wes Allen leads
- ♦ **Friday, March 29:** Good Friday Tenebrae Worship; 7:30 pm, Sanctuary, Stuart Spencer leads
- ♦ **Sunday, March 31: Easter:** 6:30 am Sunrise (Cemetery Cross); 9:00 am Traditional (Sanctuary), 11:00 am Contemporary Worship (Miller Commons); Stuart Spencer preaching

## Lent/Easter Activity Guide

Copies of the 2024 *Lent & Easter Activity Guide* will be available soon to highlight the many worship, education, activities, offerings, devotions and more for these holy seasons.

**See someone new at church?**  
**Please introduce yourself.**

## Year-End Statements

Financial statements for 2023 were emailed January 30th. To view and print an update on your 2023 giving, visit the Church Center app 24/7 and touch "Give" and "My Giving" for a full history.

**What will you give up  
or take on for Lent?**  
**Begin this discipline on  
Ash Wednesday**



SCAN ME to link  
to our giving page,  
offering or pay your  
Per Capita (\$38.75)

## Office Volunteers

We're looking for office volunteers for Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning and would love to add you to our fun office team. Contact Jan Martin at 856-235-1688, x133.

## Note from Nominations

The Nominating Committee has begun its work to find nominees for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church. Please pray about where you or someone you know may best fit and become involved. [Sign up online](#) or contact any member of the committee. "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."



February 14 ~ 7:00 pm  
*Imposition of Ashes, Communion  
as we begin the Season of Lent*

## Join Us in Honduras in July

On **Wednesday, Feb. 21**, there will be an informational meeting to learn about our July 9-14 trip to Copan Ruinas Honduras working in Summer Camps with Urban Promise Honduras. We will meet in the Lounge at 6:30 pm. Please email [missions@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:missions@fpcmoorestown.org) if you have any questions. **See insert in the Feb. 11 worship guides about our new Honey Fundraiser throughout February.**

## Help Serve Family Dinner

**We need a few volunteers to help with set up and clean up each week for Family Dinner.** If you enjoy this ministry, please help us support it so it can continue. Volunteer to help for a week or two. For questions or to sign up, contact Cheryl Gaskill at (856) 904-3056.

## Sunday Morning Check Ins

Please check in to register your attendance **each time** you attend in person or watch on your device. This records critical data for the staff & Membership Team. [Download the Church Center app](#) to check in. Friendship Pads are in the pews and in Miller Commons. SIGN IN and date the page. New to our live stream? You're encouraged to sign in on the **Get Connected** form on the live stream page on the site.

## Capital Sunday February 25

In the Annual Report, Trustees prioritized capital improvements that will be needed in upcoming years. The anticipated cost for these projects is \$170,000. Because of budget restraints, no capital money was budgeted for 2024. Instead, leadership is offering the congregation the chance to give specifically to these projects during a Capital Campaign, which will launch Feb. 25th with Capital Sunday. [See our event page.](#)

**First Sunday of Lent Feb. 18**  
**Sacrament of Communion**  
**(no communion March 3)**

## MSCG Garden Work Day

**Saturday, March 23** from 9-5 pm, we will be working with our garden builders to remove sod, till soil, lay down weed-prevention fabric, and spread compost and wood-chips. Would you be willing to come out for an hour or more to help with this work? Your help is definitely welcomed and friends of all ages are encouraged (YOUTH: earn service hours). [Sign up online](#). Not a gardener? Donations of food and beverages are also appreciated.

## See "Daniel" Production

**Thursday, April 11th** at Sight and Sound Theatre; \$150 per person; [limited tickets remain](#)

## Focus: Discipleship

Feel more comfortable engaging with your neighbors. "The Engagement Project" series begins in April





# FAMILY MINISTRY



**February 14: Ash Wednesday (no fellowship groups or Family Dinner)**

## Ash Wednesday Schedule (February 14)

There will be NO Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone or Family Dinner on **Wednesday, Feb. 14** so that families may attend that evening's Ash Wednesday worship service together.

CONGRATULATIONS to Youth Director Dave Fauvell and his wife Sami on the birth of their daughter Jane Louise, on January 30, 2024. Mom, Dad and baby are joyful, in love and tired!



## Youth Group Fun

⇒ [Middle School Youth Group](#) (grades 7-8)

**Wednesday, February 14** (6:30-8:00 pm)

Meet at the church — 3rd Floor Youth Room, to attend the Ash Wednesday worship service

⇒ [High School Youth Group](#) (grades 9-12)

**Sunday, February 11th** (6:30-8:30 pm)

**NOTE NEW LOCATION: 3rd Floor Youth Room**

**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

**"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field."**  
(Matthew 13: 44)

For Families and Children:

**Holly Asciutto**

856-235-1688, x116 (W)

[hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:

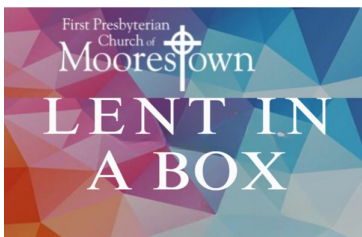
**Dave Fauvell**

609-980-7885 call/text

[dfauvell52@gmail.com](mailto:dfauvell52@gmail.com)

## Family Activity: Lent-in-a-Box

Lent-in-a-Box is a take-home activity we are offering to each FPC family. Each box contains everything you need. Pick one day each week, and after dinner or before bedtime, gather as a family for prayer, Scripture, and discussion using one object and its devotional from the box. Take turns, reaching in and pulling out the self-contained devotion for the week. There is no specific order. This Lent-in-a-Box is themed "The Light that Shines in the Darkness." Jesus is the Light of the World and through our lives, we reflect His light. **Pick up your box in the Commons Lobby on Ash Wednesday, or on Sunday mornings beginning February 18. One box per family please.**



## One Great Hour of Sharing 'Fish Banks'

As is our tradition, in Sunday School or at the Ash Wednesday service, children may pick up a Lenten **Fish Box** or coin bank for "[One Great Hour of Sharing](#)" offering as a means of charitable giving during Lent. Completed fish boxes will be collected during both Palm Sunday services on **Sunday, March 24th**. (No Sunday School on Easter March 31st.)

## Children's Easter Celebration: Donations

We are looking for **donations of candy and small toys** for the upcoming Children's Easter Celebration. Donate fun size, nut-free candies that are individually wrapped, small toys, stickers or tattoos that will fit in a standard size plastic egg. Please do NOT prefill eggs as the items are sorted by age. **Drop off candy and toys at the church office by Tuesday, February 27th.** The event will be **Saturday, March 23rd** from 10:30-11:30 a.m., held OUTSIDE (weather permitting). Celebrate the joy of Easter with an Egg hunt for children ages 2-10! There is no charge; nonperishable food for the food pantry as an entrance will be welcomed. If it rains, we will move inside. *Don't forget your basket!*

**Save The Date**

**Vacation Bible School June 24-28, 2024**