



April 14, 2024 ~ Commissioning of Stephen Ministers; Welcome New Members

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary) -- *Have you **checked in** for worship today?*

*please stand as you are able

Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week #25: Rejoice Always

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.

Music in Preparation for Worship

Joel Krott, Organ

O Lord, Support Us By Thy Word

Bux. W.V. 185

Introit

Joel Krott, Organ

The Word of God

Moravian

Adult Choir; Tyler Kim, Director

The Word of God which ne'er shall cease, proclaims free pardon, grace and peace.
Salvation shows through Christ alone, the perfect will of God makes known.

- John Hus

*Call to Worship (adapted from Ezekiel 37)

Elder Jim Wiggans

This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones:

I will make breath enter you and you will come to life.

I will attach tendons to you, and make flesh come upon you, and cover you with skin.

I will put breath in you, and you will come to life.

Then you will know that I am the Lord, your God.

Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon us, that we may live.

*Prayer of Adoration

Rev. Allen

*Hymn No. 43

A Mighty Fortress is our God

***Seating interlude

Call to Confession & Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Wiggans

Heavenly Father, Your Son, our Savior told us, "Those who try to gain their own life will lose it; but those who lose their life for My sake will gain it." These are hard words. We confess that we often close our ears and minds to this kind of risk. Lord, we are sorry for being unfaithful. Please forgive our fearful hearts. Lord, You alone know how desperately we need connection with You and with one another. Surround us with godly counsel that we can trust. Give us courage so that we may respond to Your call to us for deeper life. Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope, where Christ Jesu remains at the center. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Time of silent and personal prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Elder Wiggans

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*Gloria Patri

Anthem

Lord, You Have the Words

Proulx

Adult Choir, Kathy Gunsallus and Sawyer McNab, Bells

Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.
The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul; the decree of the Lord is trustworthy,
giving wisdom to the simple.
Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.
The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the command of the Lord is clear,
enlightening the eye.
Lord, You have the words of everlasting life.
They are more precious than gold, than a heap of perfect gold; sweeter also than syrup
or honey from the comb.
Lord, You have the words of everlasting life. - Psalm 19:8-11

Commissioning of Stephen Ministers & Stephen Leader

Rev. Allen, Doris Kahley

- Jim Dodimead, Nancy Dodimead, Sue Hill, Ginny Powell (Stephen Ministers)
- Philip Jagiela (Stephen Leader)

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer ('debts')

Rev. Allen

Offertory

Rev. Allen



Thank you for your faithfulness and for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs. Take advantage of secure or donate easily from your phone via the Church Center app for your tithes, offerings and other fund contributions. If you're watching via live stream, you can give online right now as well! To mail offerings, send to P.O. Box 868, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

Offertory Music

Joel Krott, Piano

Hark to the Still Small Voice

Handel

Amanda Schkeeper, Alto

Hark to the still small voice within thee speaking! Oh hearken!
For it surely will lead thee in safely in through life's doubts and perilous ways,
Through its troubled nights and days.
Only yield thy heart to His will. Only be still.
Listening still to the silent word within the spirit heard;
Yielding thy longing heart to His guiding will.
And though tempests lash the mountains,
And the lightening and the earthquake rend the world in flaming fire,
Yet the Lord's voice is not in the fire. - Gertrude Tingley

*Doxology No. 809

Sermon

Rev. Wes Allen

"You're Not Alone"

Scripture: Acts 2: 14-21 (Pew Bible page 119 NT)

*Hymn No. 316

For Your Holy Book We Thank You

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Pachelbel

Benediction and Going Forth; [Ways Video](#) (Becca Neindorff)

Rev. Wes Allen

~ ~ ~

Worship flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Grace Worthing by Susan Masiko.

The third vase of flowers is to honor Marion Norcross for her 16 years of service as Stephen Minister and Leader.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Acolytes: Sofia and Nico de la Cruz; **Beadle:** Elder Jim Wiggans; **Audio Technician:** Harris Ransom; **Live Stream Technician:** Jonathan Nawrocki; **Ushers:** Dave Rebeck, Brett Couvillion, James Clinton; **Flower Arrangers:** Debbie Heller and Carol Morgan; **Trustee Greeter:** Bill Conner; **Sanctuary Greeter:** Stephen Minister Barbara Lewis; **Deacon Greeter:** Deacon Susan Shaffer; **Coffee Hospitality:** Debbie Rebeck* and Carol Wiggans*; **Bagel Pick-Up:** Amy Mace*; **Nursery Care:** Chelsea Margerum.

Work of God's People (See *Connections*, eblast, website and Church Center app for details)



*Volunteers are now needed to support our coffee hospitality on Sunday mornings and set up and clean up the coffee and service area. Chelsea Margerum has moved to the nursery. If you enjoy having bagels and coffee, please contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or jcwiggans@gmail.com to offer to periodically assist with this ministry. Our goal is to compile several available teams.

Do you know of a 2024 graduate? Please fill out a [brief form](#) to submit names of those high school, college or post-grad graduates to [Jan Martin](#) in the church office. Graduate Recognition Sunday will be **May 5**.

Save the date for a Dine and Donate on **Monday, April 15** at Iron Hill Brewery to support mission events. Iron Hill is located at 124 E. Kings Highway in Maple Shade. Dine in, take out or order to go. Be sure to mention the church! Visit ironhillbrewery.com for the menu.

Spring Prayer Retreat (register by April 14): Join a group of friends from a number of churches at Holy Cross Monastery, for time away from the rush and crushing pace of life. This three-night, four-day retreat affords the time to step away from the regular demands of life and enjoy a place of rest and welcome. Retreat dates: **May 21-24**; [sign up online](#) or through the Church Center app.



Our rained out egg hunt will be incorporated into end of year events for Kingdom Kids on **Wednesday, April 24th** (Pre-K-3rd grade; 4:45-5:45 pm) and on **Wednesday, April 17th** for Crossing Zone (grades 4-6; 6:30-7:30 pm) which all children are invited to attend. The [Crossing Zone End of Year Party](#) has been moved to **May 8** offsite at Funplex. Sign up online.



NEW: Centering Prayer Group, Wednesdays beginning, April 17: Pastor Stuart Spencer leads a weekly time of Centering Prayer. This hour-long session includes a time for Centering Prayer followed by a Lectio Divina Bible Study and time to pray for one another. The Centering Prayer Group meets from 6:30-7:30 pm on Wednesdays in Pastor Spencer's Study. *Grow The Kingdom Opportunity: I Will Pray*



The Engagement Project is a 10-week small group video teaching program which will meet on **Wednesday or Sunday**. No book required and there's no homework; videos are led by Dr. Del Tackett. [The Engagement Project-Wednesday](#) has reached capacity, but spaces remain in [The Engagement Project-Sunday](#) which will meet 10:15-11:45 am after 9:00 am Worship, from **April 14-June 16** in Room 2. Class size is limited to 12; preregistration required. **Facilitators:** Paul Grossmann, Jean Kunkel & Sue Piper.



Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, May 4, from 8:30-10:00 a.m. The men of FPC Moorestown gather for a full and hearty breakfast followed by a presentation on building a prayer life by Rev. John Doll. Rev. Doll is the Pastor of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Cinnaminson. Breakfast and coffee begin at 8:30 a.m. We'll depart by 10:00 a.m. [Sign up online](#). *GTK: I Will Pray*



73rd National Day of Prayer (May 2) – "Lift Up the Word – Light Up the World" (*GTK: I Will Pray*)



- **PRAYER BREAKFAST:** 7-8 am on Van Camp Porch. (If bad weather – meet in the Lounge).
- **PRAYER GUIDE:** Use the Prayer Guide as an aid in your prayers. [Download our Prayer Guide...](#)
- **WATCH ONLINE:** Thursday Evening Prayer Service (live stream) 7:00-7:15 PM.
- **JOIN OUR 12-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL:** Please SIGN UP to pray for our church and the church at large, our country and the world. We hope to fill each 30-minute time slot with at least two names. [Please sign up here and online...](#) You may also call the church office at 856.235.1688 to leave a message for Pam Engle.
- **FASTING:** Join with others, including Pastor Spencer, to fast on this day as you are led.