First Presbyterian Church 101 Bridgeboro Road MAIL: P. O. Box 868 Moorestown, NJ 08057 <u>fpcmoorestown.org</u> 856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer Pastor/Head of Staff sspencer@fpcmoorestown.org

Rev. Wes Allen Associate Pastor wallen@fpcmoorestown.org

I Will Pray, Invite, Serve, Give.

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 <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org</u> or <u>YouTube</u> or <u>Facebook</u>.

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+

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Way of the Week 25: Rejoice Always (April 14-20, 2024)

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.



PRIORITIES OF A POWERHOUSE PEOPLE

Support our ministries — and get dinner in the process!

This month there are two fun Dine and Donate opportunities — mark them on your calendar and see our Church Center event pages. Meet up with friends at:

April 15: Iron Hill Brewery

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. Visit <u>ironhillbrewery.com</u> for the varied menu.

April 16: Chick Fil A

You've earned it! It's a busy night with activities and school events as families juggle endless carpools, so swing through the Centerton Square Chick-Fil A to support our <u>Step by Step Christian Preschool</u>. Up to 25% of the night's sales will be donated accordingly. Use mobile order, dine in, drive-through or take out. <u>See flyer</u>





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73rd Annual National Day of Prayer is May 2

The Prayer Committee will be presenting a Prayer Breakfast in recognition of the National Day of Prayer Thursday, **May 2** (7-8 am, join us before starting your day). The theme this year is "Lift Up the Word—Light Up the World."

JOIN OUR 12-HOUR PRAYER VIG-

IL: 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. <u>Please sign up</u> <u>here...</u> You may also call the church office at 856.235.1688 to leave a message for Pam Engle to participate. <u>See our event page</u> or our website's <u>Prayer Page</u>. *GTK Opportunity: I Will Pray*



/3rd National Day of Prayer Join Us in Prayer Thursday, May 2 7:00 - 8:00 am Van Camp Porch

NEW Centering Prayer Group Begins April 17

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. *GTK Opportunity: I Will Pray*

Camp J-Burg

The summer camp countdown has begun! When planning your family's summer, be sure to check out Camp Johnsonburg, a Christian and PCUSA camp and retreat center. Pick up literature at church. Registration opens soon. Visit www.campjburg.org.



SCAN ME to link to our giving page, offering or give an Easter offering Couples Retreat April 26-28 in Cape May \$450 per couple Speaker: Dr. Paul Booker Registration due April 19

Youth Choir Concert Sunday, May 5 (7:00 pm)

Come support our young choir members (Junior Choir, Choristers, and Chapel Choir) as they perform sacred selections from this year. They will be accompanied by the West Jersey Chamber Orchestra. Free will offering. The Concert will also air via live stream.

Sunday, April 14 Commissioning Stephen Ministers (9:00 am), Welcoming New Members (11:00 am)

Save The Date: American Red Cross Blood Drive May 20 (Miller Commons)

<u>College Care Packages</u> <u>are on their way!</u>

On **Saturday, April 13th**, the Discipling Children and Youth Committee and helpers assembled care packages to send to our college students to give them a lift as they study for finals and write final papers. Our students love hearing from their church.

If you were not able to join the assembly line, you can still participate by sending donations to defray the cost of the items and shipping. Give electronically via our Venmo account @fpcmoorestown or via check with "College Care Packages" in the memo line. Sign up online.



Coffee Hospitality Seeks Helpers, Bagel Pick-Up on Sunday Morning

Volunteers are now needed to support our coffee hospitality on Sunday mornings and set up and clean up the coffee hour, as Chelsea Margerum has moved to the nursery. Our property staff is able to help but is often elsewhere in the building. If you enjoy the bagels and coffee, please contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or icwiggans@gmail.com to offer to periodically assist with this ministry. Our goal is to compile several teams. Drivers are also needed to pick up the bagels at Manhattan Bagel Sunday AM and bring to the kitchen. Contact Jan Martin to sign up to

help. GTK: I Will Serve



Graduate Recognition Sunday May 5

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. We will honor high school and college graduates during worship Sunday, May 5 with a bulletin insert.

Note from Nominations

Your Nominating Committee is hard at work finding nominees for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church. Yes, you can still nomi-

nate someone else or

yourself for board posi-tions. Please do. What are your special gifts?

Help us Grow God's Kingdom through leadership. Sign up online or contact chair Gil Warren.

Spring Prayer Retreat May 21-24

Join friends from several churches for a spring retreat at Holy Cross Monastery. Step away from the demands of life and enjoy this place of rest and welcome. Pastor Stuart leads a study of prayer and meditative practices using our study book, Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer. Sign up online (registration is OPEN) or pick up a brochure in the church office. **Deadline: April 14**

Office Volunteers

Come see your church at work. We would love to add you to our fun office team! We are looking for office volunteers for Thursday morning. Contact Jan Martin at 856 -235-1688, x133. GTK: I Will Serve

The Engagement Project

The Engagement Project is a 10week 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 (no fee). Facilitators: Paul Grossmann, Jean Kunkel & Sue Piper.

Men's Prayer Breakfast Saturday, May 4 (8:30 am)

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. GTK: I Will Pray



Capital Fund

Thank you for your generosity to the Capital Fund. See our website and event pages for an update letter from property chair Rich Corbin about several critical projects being planned. GTK: I Will Give

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 guickly on your cell. Share Friendship Pads in the pews and Miller Commons to greet those who are seated near you. Remember to date the page. New to our live stream? Please sign in on the Get *Connected* form on the live stream page on the website.

Church Directory Update

Copies of an updated Church Directory listing are available in the church office (run April 2, 2024) and includes the Winter 2024 New Member class.

Have you remembered the church in your will?

Summer Worship Hours

The Worship Committee has recommended to retain the current worship times of 9:00 am traditional and 11:00 am contemporary for "summer hours," beginning Sunday, June 2. Sunday School ends May **19**. There is no children's Sunday School during the summer. There may be Adult Spiritual Formation in the summer.



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Middle schoolers and high schoolers love their Youth Groups!

Egg Hunt Moves to End of Year Events

OUR EGG HUNT was rained out on March 23. But not to worry! We will incorporate the egg hunt into our end of year party for Kingdom Kids on **Wednesday, April 24**th (Pre-K-3rd grade; 4:45-5:45 pm) and on **Wednesday, April 17**th for Crossing Zone (grades 4-6; 6:30-7:30 pm) which all children are invited to attend. This will allow us to continue to celebrate the joy of Easter and remember all that Jesus has done for us as we enter our summer break. Thank you to all in our church family who donated candy and toys for our eggs and to Girl Scout Troop 30575 who filled the eggs.

Come hang out with Youth Group (Find us on Instagram)

Middle School Youth Group (grades 7-8) Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 pm (3rd Floor) ⇒ Last Meeting: Wednesday, May 29

High School Youth Group (grades 9-12) Sundays from 6:30-8:30 pm (3rd Floor) ⇒ Last Meeting: Sunday, May 26

Year-End Youth Groups Cookout: Sunday, June 2!

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

Memory Verse: "Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends." (Revelation 3: 20) For Families and Children: Holly Asciutto 856-235-1688, x116 (VV) hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School: Dave Fauvell 609-980-7885 call/text dfauvell52@gmail.com

End of Year Events

We will close out the year in style for grades K-6th with our end of the year events. <u>REGISTER for the Crossing Zone</u> End of Year Party online.



CROSSING ZONE (grades 4-6) Wednesday, April 17 6:30-7:30 pm Easter Egg Hunt (all children invited to attend)

> KINGDOM KIDS (Pre-K-3rd) Ends Wednesday, April 24 4:45-5:45 pm

CROSSING ZONE (grades 4-6) Wednesday, May 1 regular times End of Year Party Wednesday, May 8 off-site 6:00-8:00 pm at Funplex



Save The Date June 24-28, 2024 Entering kindergarten through entering 6th grade

