First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
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856.235.1688

Rev. Stuart Spencer
Pastor/Head of Staff
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Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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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 <a href="https://www.fpcmoorestown.org">www.fpcmoorestown.org</a> or <a href="mailto:YouTube">YouTube</a> or <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>.

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

<u>jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org</u> 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

## April 21-27, 2024

# Way of the Week 1: Be Third

(April 21-27, 2024)

 BE THIRD. God is first, others are second, and you're third. Don't just think about your own interests, be interested in others. Don't think less of yourself, just think of yourself less and others more.

Ideas for Action: Ask God, "Whom can I serve today?" Look for an opportunity to be last ... in line, the last to speak, or last to be served.



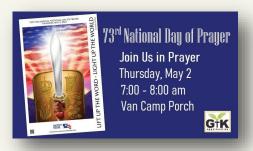


## 73rd Annual National Day of Prayer is May 2

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 VIGIL**: 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...** 

You may also call the church office at 856.235.1688 to leave a message for Pam Engle to participate. See our event page or our website's Prayer Page. GTK Opportunity: I Will Pray





# Graduate Recognition Sunday May 5

Do you know of a 2024 graduate? Please fill out a brief form by May 2 to submit names of 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 in both services.

# NEW Centering Prayer Group Begins April 17

NEW: Centering Prayer Group, Wednesdays beginning, April 17: Pastor Stuart Spencer team-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

American Red Cross Blood Drive May 20 (Miller Commons)

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

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

# Read online about ways to help our Garden this year

#### **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 and for the first and third Tuesday afternoon. Contact Jan Martin at 856-235-1688, x133. *GTK: I Will Serve* 



SCAN ME to link to our giving page or give an offering



## West Jersey Music Acad. Little Beats Music Camp July 8-19, 2024

#### 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 <a href="https://www.campjburg.org">www.campjburg.org</a>.

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

Volunteer teams are needed to support our coffee hospitality on Sunday mornings and set up and clean up the coffee service. Our property staff is able to assist periodically. If you enjoy the bagels and coffee, please contact Carol Wiggans at (267) 496-0450 or <a href="mailto:jcwiggans@gmail.com">jcwiggans@gmail.com</a> to offer to periodically serve this ministry.

Drivers are also needed to pick up the bagels at Manhattan Bagel Sunday AM and bring to the kitchen. Men and women welcome. Contact Amy Mace at <a href="mailto:amy.mace@gmail.com">amy.mace@gmail.com</a> to sign up to help. GTK Opportunity: I Will Serve

# **The Engagement Project**

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 (no fee). Facilitators: Paul Grossmann, Jean Kunkel & Sue Piper.



## **Note from Nominations**

Your Nominating Committee is working hard to fill opportunities for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church and a few openings remain. YES, you can still nominate someone else or yourself for board positions. Please do. What are your special gifts? Help Grow God's Kingdom through leadership. Sign up online or contact chair Gil Warren. GTK: I Will Serve

# 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 the book, Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: An Invitation to the Wonder and Mystery of Prayer. Sign up online (registration due April 14).

# 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 quickly 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.

# **Couples Retreat**

April 26-28 in Cape May

\$450 per couple Speaker: Dr. Paul Booker Registration due April 19

## Adult Spiritual Formation 10:15-11:15 am Sundays Fellowship Hall

# **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 Session 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.

#### **College Care Packages**

Over 50 care packages were sent to FPC Moorestown students as well as seniors affiliated with our church from youth group and choirs from our Discipling Children and Youth Committee. Donations to defray the cost of items and shipping are welcomed. Give electronically via our Venmo account @fpcmoorestown or via check with "College Care Packages" in the memo line.



Last Family Dinner Wednesday, May 1

## **Need a Stephen Minister?**

In our church, many lay people have answered the call to become a Stephen Minister, completing the 50-hour training program. We currently have 18 active Stephen Ministers including five active Stephen Leaders who have received extra training to help administer the program. A Stephen Minister will meet with you for about one hour each week. He or she will listen to your problems and help you get through the tough times with God's guidance. Stephen Ministry provides a safe place to ask for help. This confidential program only works when caregivers are paired with care receivers. The difficult part of this ministry is getting those who need help to ask for it. Sometimes a friend or family member will suggest you ask for a Stephen Minister. Remember none of us can go it alone. Ask for help.



# Do you know a 2024 Graduate? May 5 is Graduate Recognition Sunday

#### Egg Hunt Moved to End of Year Event

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**<sup>th</sup> (Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 4:45-5:45 pm). 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.



# 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:** "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116 (W)

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.

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

CROSSING ZONE (grades 4-6)
Wednesday, May 1 regular times

CROSSING ZONE (grades 4-6)

End of Year Party Wednesday, May 8 off-site
6:00-8:00 pm at Funplex

REGISTER for the Crossing Zone End of Year Party online.

Last Family Dinner Wednesday, May 1 \$7.00 per person





#### **IT'S COMING**

Vacation Bible School 2024 June 24-28, 2024 Race to the Finish

Entering kindergarten through entering 6th grade

Watch for registration information coming soon