

First Presbyterian Church
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Rev. Stuart Spencer
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Rev. Wes Allen
Associate Pastor
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**I Will Pray, Invite,
Serve, Give.**

*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

May 5-11, 2024

Way of the Week 3:

Listen Generously

(May 5-11, 2024)

3. LISTEN GENEROUSLY. Be quick to listen and do so with your undivided attention. Minimize the distractions and let go of the need to agree or disagree. Suspend your judgment and be curious to know more rather than jumping to conclusions. Above all, listen to understand.

Ideas for Action: Put aside phones and laptops. Turn off the TV or computer and face someone you love. Focus on what the other is saying; not on what you want to say. Be careful that you're not interrupting because you're not listening to them.



Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 5, 2024

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown, New Jersey has called a special meeting of the congregation. This meeting will be held Sunday, May 5, 2024 immediately following the 9:00 a.m. traditional worship service.

The meeting may also be viewed via live stream. Note votes may not be cast via live stream. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Elders, Deacons and Trustees to a term of office beginning June 1, 2024. No other business may be brought before the congregation other than the preceding item.

Ann McBride, Clerk of Session



Graduate Recognition

Sunday is May 5

On Sunday, May 5 we will honor our 2024 high school, college and post-grad graduates for our member families and those affiliated with our church through choirs and youth groups. Worship guides will include an insert listing their schools and next steps. We extend a heartfelt invitation to all our graduates to join us that Sunday in worship - as schedules permit - to allow us the joy of congratulating them in person.

Centering Prayer

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*

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's "Magnificat." They will be accompanied by the West Jersey Chamber Symphony. Free will offering. The Concert will also air via live stream.



Welcome New Officers

Thank you to the men and women who have answered the call and stepped up to serve for the coming terms as elders, deacons or trustees. "I Will Serve" is one of the tenets of our Grow The Kingdom emphasis.

Officer training will be:

- ◆ **Wednesday, May 15** (6:30-8:00 pm, FH A)
- ◆ **Saturday, May 18** (9:30-11:30 am, FH A)
- ◆ Installation and Ordination will be on **Sunday, June 9** during worship

For questions please contact Pastor Spencer.

Several officer positions remain and the Nominations Committee continues to look for individuals to fill these needs.

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 jcwiggans@gmail.com 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 amy.mace@gmail.com to sign up to help. *GTK Opportunity: I Will Serve*



NEW: Stephen Ministry Pew Cards

Stephen Ministry provides a safe place to ask for help. We have placed cards explaining care by Stephen Ministers in the pew racks and in Miller Commons. Please take them and pass them along to those who could use a Stephen Minister. Sometimes a friend or family member will suggest you ask for a Stephen Minister. They can call the church office at 856-235-1688 or Stephen Leader Doris Kahley at 609-261-8474. Remember none of us can go it alone. Ask for help.

[Read online about ways to help our Garden this year](#)

Note from Nominations

Your Nominating Committee is working hard to fill remaining opportunities for Elders, Deacons and Trustees to serve our church and a few openings remain. YES, you can still nominate 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*

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*

Summer Worship

At its April meeting, Session approved a Worship Committee recommendation 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 in the summer. There may be Adult Spiritual Formation in the summer. *Connections* also prints biweekly in the summer.

Sign up to volunteer with Vacation Bible School

Church Directory Updated

Copies of an updated Church Directory listing are available in the church office (dated April 2, 2024). Call the church office for your copy.

**Adult Spiritual Formation
10:15-11:15 am Sundays
Fellowship Hall, ends May 19**

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.

Learn how to remember the church in your will on Legacy Giving Sunday June 2

Upcoming Sermon Series

From May 26-June 30, our sermon series "Fan the Flames" will spotlight Spiritual Gifts. These sermons support our Grow the Kingdom commitment, I Will Serve. Members will also have an opportunity to discover their top spiritual gifts by completing an online survey.

Thank you, Church

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation, we have sent \$2,620 for One Great Hour of Sharing, compared to \$2,288 last year.

Camp Johnsonburg

Parents: 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. Visit www.campjburg.org.

West Jersey Music Academy

**Little Beats Music Camp
July 8-19, 2024**

Westjerseymusicacademy.org

Donate and Save a Life: ARC Blood Drive

- **Monday, May 20, 2024**
- 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- Miller Commons

Please sign up for this spring blood drive and save a life. Contact Deborah Heller at (856) 273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net to schedule an appointment or visit www.redcross.org. Thank you for considering a donation that truly makes a difference!

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. Remember none of us can go it alone. Ask for help.

Check Requests

A reminder that checks are written weekly on Thursdays unless previous arrangements have been made.



**Friday,
June 7
(6-9 pm)**

FAMILY MINISTRY

Teacher Appreciation Sunday May 19th — Last day of Sunday School

Grades 7-12: Hang out with our Youth Groups (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**



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 Ascitutto
856-235-1688, x116 (W)
hascitutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

Crossing Zone End of the Year Event

Crossing Zone End of the Year Party is **Wednesday, May 8** at Funplex (6:00-8:00 pm): [REGISTER online](#), \$20 per person. All students entering 4th grade in the fall of 2024 and currently in 4th-6th grades are invited! We will gather and enjoy indoor and outdoor fun games and attractions, pizza, and special treats. This is a great event to bring a friend to see what Crossing Zone is all about!

Thank You to our Teachers

Teacher & Leader Appreciation Sunday is **May 19** (last day of Sunday School). Think about being a Sunday School teacher next year!

Closing out our year for K-6th

KINGDOM KIDS (Pre-K-3rd) — Last regular meeting and End of the Year Party was **Wednesday, April 24**

CROSSING ZONE (grades 4-6) — Last regular meeting was **Wednesday, May 1**



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

Entering kindergarten through entering 6th grade

[Registration is OPEN! Sign up online](#)