

First Presbyterian Church
101 Bridgeboro Road
MAIL: P. O. Box 868
Moorestown, NJ 08057
fpcmoorestown.org
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

10:15-11:00 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 announcements, Connections, and upcoming events? If not, contact the [church office](#).



Connections FPC Moorestown

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

January 5-11, 2025

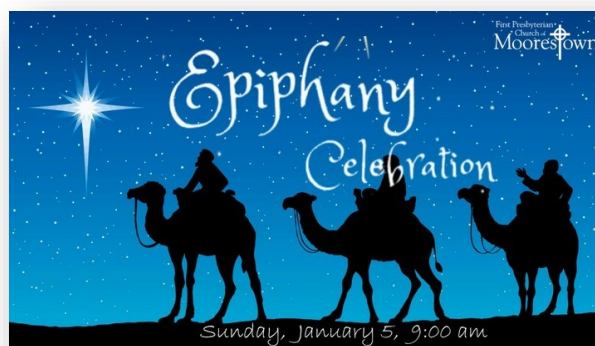
Way of the Week 13: Open Doors for Others to Lead

(January 5, 2025)

Ways Speaker: Dana Riker Jackson

13. OPEN DOORS FOR OTHERS TO LEAD. Encourage others to step into leadership by sharing responsibilities and mentoring. Let go of the jobs you've always done and allow new leaders to emerge. Remember that our youth and young adults are not solely the future of our church but are vitally important for our *present*.

Ideas for Action: As you consider whatever it is that you do regularly here, keep a look out for a younger person or a new member to invite to join you in the task. If the job requires training or coaching, offer it. Look to let go and hand off.



Epiphany Concert

Sunday, January 5, 2025 during 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

This holiday performance of carols, songs, and anthems of the season includes multi-choir works as we celebrate the Epiphany. The Celebration features the Choristers (grades 5-8), Chapel Choir (grades 9-12), and Adult Choir.

[Early Bird Registration for 2025 Couples Retreat](#)

Join us **April 11-13, 2025** for our Couples' Retreat in Cape May, NJ. We will be staying once again at The Dormer House bed and breakfast. Cost of \$450 per couple includes breakfast, 2 nights, group sessions with Dr. Paul Booker, and dinner Saturday. See Church Center event page to register and for details. **Register by Jan. 31, 2025 to take advantage of Early Bird Special of \$400 per couple!** *Secure your spot with a \$100 deposit. Must be paid in full by April 4, 2025.*

Is This Yours? Check out Lost and Found Items

Miscellaneous items that have been left in our Lost and Found or not claimed this year are being displayed on a table in the Commons Lobby. Please see if any of these are yours! Items not claimed by **Sunday, Feb. 2** (Annual Meeting) will be donated to a local agency.

Annual Report Submissions Due by January 10

Work has begun preparing the Annual Report, and summarizing our ministry year for the calendar and fiscal year 2024. Ministry area reports are due to Jan Martin in the church office by **Friday, January 10**. The Annual Report will be available Sunday, Jan. 26. The Annual Meeting will be held **Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025** in Fellowship Hall.

Deacon Sunday February 9, 2025

Preschool Registration

Registration for 2025-2026 Step by Step Christian Preschool opens soon! Registration for existing families and church members will be **January 6-17, 2025**. Registration for others will begin January 21, 2025. A Preschool Open House will be held **January 21, 2025** from 6-7 p.m. Applications are available by contacting director Amy Delgado at 856.235.1688, x132 or ad-elgado@fpcmoorestown.org.

Free Choir Next Door Concert January 11th

Save the date! Choir Next Door's upcoming FREE concert is **Saturday, Jan. 11** at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. This concert, led by FPC Moorestown grad Sam Scheibe, will include a wide range of Choir Next Door's eclectic repertoire, from Barber-shop to Byrd to Bobby McFerrin, and even a bit of audience participation. If you enjoy listening, learning about, or even singing vocal music, come out and enjoy this free concert in your neighborhood! For details about the concert, live stream, or Choir Next Door, visit www.choirnextdoor.com.



Year-End 2024 Statements

Need a year-end update on your 2024 giving? It's available 24/7 in the Church Center app. Touch "Give" and "My Giving" for a full history and statements.

Year-end statements will be e-mailed in January. For questions contact Norman Vandergrift.

2025 Offering Envelopes

Boxed offering envelopes for 2025 are being prepared and will be mailed in January. For questions contact Norman Vandergrift.

NEW: Adult Spiritual Formation

10:15-11:00 am ~ Fellowship Hall

We begin the new year with two engaging studies for Adult Spiritual Formation. Stop on by!

- ⇒ **January 5, 12, and 19:** a class member will share their spiritual journey each week: Justin Greenhow, Jeff Erbig, and Bobbi Vogelsong. There is a different theme each week.
- ⇒ Beginning **January 26th**, we will present a five-week study on I John.
- ⇒ Thank you to our facilitators Lorenzo Eagles, Paul Gordon and Lissa Herman

PW Winter Gathering

All women of the Church are encouraged to come to the Presbyterian Women's Winter Gathering **Monday, Jan. 13** at 10:00 a.m. Enjoy delicious pastries and hot beverages as we begin a new year. Speaker will be Linda Jagiela, who will share about her new job with Baker Industries, a nonprofit workforce development program serving hard-to-employ adults since 1980. Please register online.

Please also bring **white cotton socks** for the Christian Caring Center. A collection box is in the Commons Lobby.

Women's Prayer Event Saturday, February 22

8:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Experience the joy and wonder of spending special time alone with God as we gratefully enter the fall season to seek His intent for our lives. Please come for a special time of prayer. Bring your Bible, journal and a snack if you'd like. Coffee, hot tea, and water will be provided. If praying is a new or unfamiliar spiritual practice, not a problem. Just do what makes you comfortable. Join other women on their prayer journey. Women of high school age or older and friends are welcome.

[Sign up online.](#) All women are welcome -- those who have attended in the past as well as first-time participants. Location: event will start in the Lounge then women will find quiet spaces throughout the building to pray.

Centering Prayer Group
Wednesdays from 6:30- 7:30 p.m. (I Will Pray) -- On Wednesday, **January 8 and 15**, those who are new to this form of prayer are invited to come for two evenings of introduction to Centering Prayer. On January 15, Dr. Brian Russell, author of *Centering Prayer: Sitting Quietly in the Presence of God Can Change Your Life* joins the group via Zoom for an introduction to Centering Prayer. The group meets in Pastor Spencer's Study. On January 15, the group meets in Fellowship Hall.

Blood Drive January 24

There continues to be a critical need for blood products to ensure patient care. First Presbyterian Church and the American Red Cross are joining forces to host an upcoming blood drive on **Friday, January 24**. Please see Deborah Heller at the Welcome Desk to reserve a time for this life-giving donation.

- **Site:** FPC Moorestown
- **Room:** Miller Commons
- **Date:** Friday, January 24, 2025
- **Time:** 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- **Contact:** Debbie Heller
- **Who:** You!

To sign up [see our event page](#), contact Debbie Heller at 856-273-6838 or dheller374@comcast.net, or visit redcrossblood.org/give and enter "First Presbyterian Moorestown."



Monday, Jan. 20
Office closed

'I Will Serve' Opportunity

Is Administration your gift? Are you looking for ways to support your church? Clerk of Session Ann McBride will be concluding her service in June 2025, and we are looking for an individual to work with Ann to learn the position and step in to the vacancy with her help. If you're interested, contact Ann McBride or Pastor Stuart.

Do You Know?

A Random Collection of Presbyterian Tidbits

Do you know that Presbyterians in America came from Scottish and Scots-Irish immigrants during Colonial times? In 1689, Presbyterianism was established as the official Church of Scotland. To this day, at FPC we carry out a Scottish tradition using a BEADLE. In our church the beadle, typically an Elder, carries the Bible into the church at the beginning of the service. In the Church of Scotland the beadle is an official who may usher, keep order, assist in religious functions. Our beadle at FPC ceremoniously prepares the place of worship by carrying the Bible into the church.

**To volunteer to help with
Sunday morning coffee
hospitality, please contact
Carol Wiggins**

Calling Photographers

Do you have any pictures from Christmas Eve worship services? Please email them to Jan Martin at jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org or webmaster Barbara Duffy at bduffy@fpcmoorestown.org.



Feast of Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child



Youth Groups on Winter Break

Fellowship groups are off for Winter Break through January, and will return in February. Happy New Year to our amazing teens!

- High School: returns on **Sunday, Feb. 2**
- Middle School: returns on **Wednesday, Feb. 5**

For information contact Youth Director Dave Fauvell.

Happy New Year!

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

“Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.” (Exodus 20: 8)

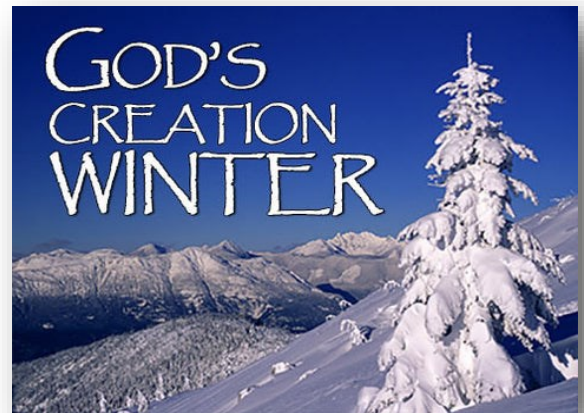
For Families and Children:
Holly Asciutto
856-235-1688, x116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

Wednesday Groups Winter Break

Fellowship groups and Family Dinner are off for Winter Break through the month of January and will return **Wednesday, February 5, 2025.**

*We Three Kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts we traverse afar;
field and fountain, moor and mountain
Following yonder Star.*



CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

Children's Sunday School returns **January 5, 2025.**
See you then! Don't forget to [sign up online](#).

Looking for Acolytes

As light bearers, acolytes symbolically bring the light of Christ into the worship service at the beginning of worship and take Christ's light out into the world at the end of worship. This act frames all we do in our worship services, and is a beautiful way to engage children in church life. If your young person is interested in serving, please [sign up online](#). **We'd love to have you!**