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

Grow The Kingdom: I Will Pray, Invite, Serve, Give.

Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing - Psalm 100:2

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

I I:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship

10:15-11:00 a.m. Education Classes

Worship streams live from each worship space. Log on from any device to www.fpcmoorestown.org or YouTube or Facebook. Services are also posted 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

April 13-19, 2025

Way of the Week 2: Speak the Truth with Love

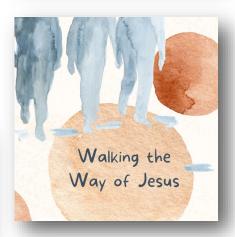
(April 13-19, 2025)

2. SPEAK THE TRUTH WITH LOVE. Speak honestly and directly in a way that clearly reflects love and support for one another. Be courageous enough to say what needs to be said, even when it's difficult. Address issues directly with those who are involved or affected; speak to, not about, others.

Ideas for Action: Is there a difficult conversation you've been delaying? Is there someone you've been talking about instead of being direct? Pray for courage and grace to have the conversation, in person, if possible.







TODAY: One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

On **Palm Sunday April 13**, we highlight One Great Hour of Sharing. This PCUSA offering supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.

See page 4 for children's fish bank information too! During Lent children were provided a fish bank to learn charitable giving. Give online and by using the special pew envelopes that have been provided.

Maundy Thursday "Walk with Peter to the Cross"

Thursday, April 17, 2025 (7 PM)

Our Maundy Thursday worship begins with a celebration of the Lord's Supper in Miller Commons. Pastor Stuart Spencer preaches. After communion, the people will walk with the disciple Peter from the Lord's Table to different outdoor stations that represent where Jesus was denied, accused, judged and finally crucified. Those who attend will walk with Peter from one station to another, ending at the cross in the cemetery. In the event of rain, the whole service will be held in Miller Commons.

Can you help deliver some Easter blooms?

Drivers are needed to help the deacons with a lovely Easter tradition—delivering flowers to some of our less mobile members. If you can deliver a plant or two or three, please contact <u>Gail Sorin</u> or <u>Bobbi Voglesong</u> or <u>Jean Marie Hanna</u> in the church office.

Good Friday Tenebrae

Friday, April 18 ~ 7:30 p.m. This powerful Good Friday Tenebrae Service moves us from light into dark on the day of the crucifixion. Tenebrae comes from the Latin meaning "darkness" and uses diminishing light by extinguishing candles to symbolize the events from Palm Sunday to Jesus' burial. The service concludes in darkness and silence. Rev. Wes Allen leads.



Youth Choir Concert Palm Sunday, April 13th (7:00 p.m.)



Lent Resources

- ⇒ See our cumulative calendar of Lent activities with the online Lent At-a-Glance event page.
- ⇒ Pick up your Holy Week/ Easter publication of <u>The</u> <u>Journey of Lent</u> at church or electronically on the Friday eblast.

Multigenerational Family Mission Trip

In September 2025, powerful hurricanes completely ravaged areas of North Carolina. The Missions Committee is coordinating a multigenerational Mission Trip to help those who continue to recover from this natural disaster. A team will be traveling to New Bern, NC August 10-17, 2025. Estimated cost per person: \$850, minimum age 14. Contact: Steve Engle or see our event page. We have room for 30 volunteers.

Holy Week Schedule

- ◆ **Sunday, April 13:** Palm Sunday; One Great Hour of Sharing offering; Youth Choir Concert
- Thursday, April 17: Maundy Thursday Drama "Walk with Peter to the Cross;" 7:00 PM, Miller Commons, Stuart Spencer leads
- ◆ Friday, April 18: Good Friday Tenebrae Worship; 7:30 PM, Sanctuary, Wes Allen leads
- Sunday, April 20: Easter: 6:30 AM Sunrise (Cemetery Cross); 9:00 AM Traditional (Sanctuary), 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship (Commons). No Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation or nursery care.

Thank You Everyone!

The Deacons would like to thank EVERYONE who helped make the Church Has Left The Building projects a great success. We are very grateful for your hard work and dedication in helping those in need. As Paul says in 2 Thessalonians 1:3 "...we can't help but thank God for you..." (NLT) Praise God for he is good!! THANK YOU FPC TEAM!

Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers Sunday, April 27, 2025 (10:15 AM)

Session has called a Congregational Meeting for **Sunday, April 27** immediately following the 9:00 AM traditional service, for purposes of electing officers to begin terms June 1, 2025.

Calling 2025 Graduates

Please submit names of 2025 high school, college and post-graduates to Jan Martin in the church office by **April 29th** (see online form). We will honor our grads along with outgoing Youth Director Dave Fauvell and CREDO confirmands on **Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 4**. The congregation is invited to bring cards and notes of appreciation for Dave that day.

Spring Cleaning With Meaning

Sami Fauvell, who works in the ER at Pennsylvania Hospital, shares that there is a large population there that always needs clothing. Imagine seeking medical treatment and upon leaving the ER you are not properly dressed to go back into the world. The hospital has a donation room to provide items to those in need, but is in desperate need of clothing. As you shift your clothing for the warmer weather, please put aside items for this clothing drive. Look for the bin outside Youth Director Dave's office. Items of special need: women's and men's pants, jackets and sweatshirts, sneakers and shoes.

Church office closed 1:00 PM Good Friday and Easter Monday, April 21

Help at Cathedral Kitchen

"I was hungry and you gave me food." If you are interested in joining the FPC Moorestown team in serving dinner at Cathedral Kitchen to our friends who are food insecure, please contact Karin Miller at karinbmiller49@gmail.com or (856) 298-3522 for further information.

Strawberry Festival T-Shirts Available!

NEW THIS YEAR: Celebrate the **66th Strawberry Festival** June 6th in style with a vintage-inspired Strawberry Festival T-shirt! Show your support for the church and back the berries with a commemorative shirt, available for purchase online. Sizes Youth-5XL, Presented by the Stewardship Team. See event page/webstore. **Sale ends May 18.**

CREDO Confirmation class meets with Session April 29

Grace Boutique Open

Members of the Mission Committee and their volunteers are being scheduled to staff the Grace Boutique. Public hours are: 2nd Tues: 11:30 am-2:00 pm and 3rd Wed: Noon-2:30 pm. Monetary donations encouraged so we can buy in bulk and continue to stock our shelves. Demand is HIGH. Please give via Venmo (@fpcmoorestown) or check and note it is for "Grace Boutique." The store provides items unavailable through assistance programs such as diapers, feminine hygiene products, toilet paper, paper towels, toiletries, tissue boxes and more. Can you help serve as a host? Contact Debby Gerhardt at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

Pastor Stuart H. Spencer Sabbatical News May 12-August 20

Sunday Morning Check Ins

Each time you attend in person or watch on your device, **please check in** to register your attendance using the Church Center app or pew pads.

Ice Cream "Sunday"

Save The Date: Membership Ice Cream Social Sunday, May 25; combined 9:30 am worship; honoring recent Inquirers Classes, CREDO Confirmands and 50+ Year Members; RSVP online please.

Cemetery Plots

Effective June 1, 2025, the cost of purchasing a cemetery plot will increase to \$1,500. This remains less than comparable prices at area cemeteries. To purchase a cemetery plot (FPC members only), contact <u>Earl Gage</u> in the church office at 856.235.1688, x106.

Jean Marie Hanna Joins Staff

Jean Marie Hanna, who has been working with us as a temporary agency staffer, has accepted the staff position of part-time administrative assistant. She will support Family Ministries and Missions as well as the office. Her email is jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org.

Do You Know? A Collection of Presbyterian Tidbits

Do you know the true meaning of the word hosanna? Palm Sunday commemorates the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Palms that symbolize victory and typically a tribute to a triumphant king were spread and waved with exclamations of hosanna. The term hosanna is thought to be an expression of praise similar to hallelujah. However, the word originates from the Hebrew phrase "hoshi' a na" which appears in Psalm 118 and is a 3000 year old phrase calling out for a Messiah. Hosanna biblically designates a plea for salvation and deliverance. God's reassurance of this can only fill us with joy during this Lenten season.



Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem

One Great Hour of Sharing Fish Banks

One Great Hour of Sharing's **fish-shaped coin** banks were distributed in children's Sunday School during Lent and will be collected on Palm **Sunday April 13.** Typically received during Lent each year, each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.

THANK YOU DAVE FAUVELL

Youth Director **Dave Fauvell** has indicated that this April he will be stepping away from his position as part-time youth director. We are so grateful to Dave and his wife Sami for many years of gifted leadership with our middle school and high school youth groups grades 7-12.

We will recognize Dave and his ministry on **Sunday, May 4th (Graduate Recognition Sunday),** where we will collect notes of appreciation for him at both Sunday worship services.

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

Then he said to the crowd, "If any of you want to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me. If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. (Luke 9: 23, 24)

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116
hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School:

Dave Fauvell

609-980-7885 call/text

dfauvell52@gmail.com

NOTE: Easter Recess Activity Schedule

- Wednesday, April 16: OFF: Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Family Dinner and Middle School Youth Group
- Thursday, April 17 (Maundy Thursday): OFF: Thursday Prayer Service (online)
- Sunday, April 20 (Easter): OFF: High School Youth Group
- Wednesday, April 23: OFF: Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Family Dinner, and Middle School Youth Group
- Sunday, April 27: OFF: High School Youth Group

CREDO Confirmation

Tuesday, April 29: Confirmands present Statements of Faith to Session for membership

End of Year Parties

- ⇒ Kingdom Kids Party (K-3rd): Wednesday, April 30
- ⇒ Last Family Dinner: Wednesday, April 30
- ⇒ Crossing Zone Party (4th-6th): Wednesday, May 7
- ⇒ Youth Groups Picnic (Grades 7-12): Sunday, June 1



\$7.00 per person
Pay via Venmo or at the door

(Note: No Family Dinner on April 16 or April 23)

Registration is OPEN for Vacation Bible School June 23-27, 2025

"True North"

Register online today!

