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 20-26, 2025

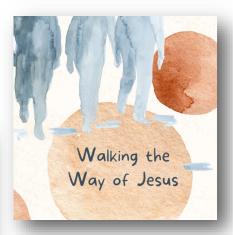
Way of the Week 3: <u>Listen Generously</u> (April 20-26, 2025)

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 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.

Biographical sketches of the candidates will be included in the worship guides on Sunday, April 27.

Good Friday Tenebrae Worship

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.

Easter Schedule Sunday, April 20

- ⇒ 6:30 AM Sunrise Worship (Cemetery Cross)
- ⇒ 9:00 AM Traditional Worship
- ⇒ 11:00 AM Contemporary Worship

No Sunday School, Adult Spiritual Formation or nursery care.

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

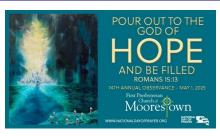
Multigenerational Family Mission Trip

In September 2025, powerful hurricanes completely ravaged areas of North Carolina. The Missions Committee is coordinating a multi-generational 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. Estimated cost per person: \$850, minimum age 14. Contact: Steve Engle or see our event page. We have room for 30 volunteers. Can we save you a seat?



66th Strawberry Festival
Friday, June 6





NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Thursday, May 1Pour Out to the God of Hope
and Be Filled

Watch for a sign up sheet for a **12-Hour Prayer Vigil** 5 am-5 pm. Sponsored by Prayer Committee (see event page)

Come Pray With Your Sisters in Christ

Saturday, May 31

Women's Morning Prayer Event Experience the joy and wonder of spending special time alone with God as we gratefully 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.

Grace Boutique Needs

Members of the Mission Committee and their volunteers are being scheduled to staff this ministry and more help is needed when the store is open. Public hours are: 2nd Tues: 11:30 am-2:00 pm and 3rd Wed: Noon-2:30 pm. Can you help serve as a host? Contact Debby Gerhardt at missions@fpcmoorestown.org.

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.

Thank You Chili Makers!

The Deacons are pleased to announce another successful Chili Cook-Off that was held in conjunction with Church Has Left The Building on March 30. Thanks to all who participated and shared their great chili dishes, cornbreads and mac and cheese. And of course, a big thanks to all the judges/taste-testers! And the results were so close! First prize went to **Taylor Ruilova**, second prize went to **Jen Allen**, and third prize went to **Mike Jones**. Congratulations and thank you all!

American Red Cross Blood Drive
Wednesday, May 7

Wednesday, May /
10:00 AM-3:00 PM (Miller Commons)

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 (see page 4).

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. 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, sweatshirts, sneakers and shoes.

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.

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.

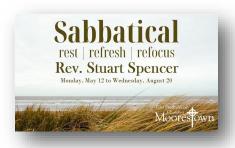
Order Strawberry Festival T-Shirts!

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

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.



Pastor Spencer Sabbatical May 12-August 20

Please submit dates/events/ room requests for Staff Summer Planning Meeting to church office by April 22

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.

Alpha Begins April 30th

ALPHA, an 11-week Wednesday evening discussion series, begins **April 30**. Sign up online or with Jim Cole.

May Food Drive Coming

The Moorestown Ministerium Food Pantry is in dire need of food for distribution to hungry families in our area this month. The Ministerium supports 40-50 identified families in need in the Moorestown, Mt. Laurel, Maple Shade, Delran, Medford areas. Throughout May, we are hosting a food drive for the Moorestown Ministerium. Please bring nonperishable foods that include proteins. Please see our event page for details and suggested items.



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.



No Sunday School or Nursery Care on Easter so families may worship together

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



Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 4thBring cards and notes for Dave Fauvell send-off

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

CREDO Confirmation

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

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 23)

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

"True North"

Register online today!

Fpcmoorestown.org/vbs