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

l 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 <u>www.fpcmoorestown.org</u> or <u>YouTube</u> or <u>Facebook</u>. 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 <u>church office</u>.



Connections FPC

First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown

Way of the Week 4: Always Encourage & Celebrate (April 27-May 3, 2025)

4. ALWAYS ENCOURAGE AND CELE-BRATE. Show gratitude and appreciation by regularly acknowledging the good works you see everywhere. Look for signs of spiritual growth and maturity among our members and staff. When you see it, point it out and rejoice. Pass on good reports that you hear about others.

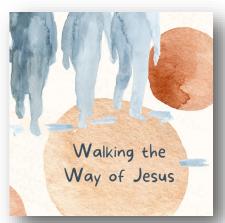
Ideas for Action: Write a text or a note to someone close to you who just did something wonderful or important. With many details, tell them why you're grateful or delighted by them.



Please complete survey by May 2

April 27-May 3, 2025



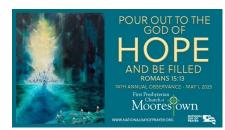


Congregational Meeting to Elect Officers Sunday, April 27, 2025 (10:15 AM)

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.

A listing of the officer candidates will be included in the worship guides on Sunday, April 27.

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NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Thursday, May 1 Pour Out to the God of Hope and Be Filled

See Church Center event page for a <u>sign up sheet</u> for a **12-Hour Prayer Vigil** 5 am-5 pm. Sponsored by Prayer Committee



Give blood May 1-18 for a \$20 egift card to merchant of choice! Visit <u>redcrossblood.org</u> and enter sponsor code: First Presbyterian Moorestown

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 <u>see</u> <u>our event page</u>. We have room for 30 volunteers. Can we save you a seat?



<u>66th Strawberry Festival</u> Friday, June 6 6:00-9:00 pm

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.

Pictorial Directory

The Membership Committee is exploring publication of an updated Pictorial Membership Directory, but is in need of a volunteer coordinator(s). If interested please contact Joyce Wenzke at joycewenzke@gmail.com.

Adult Spiritual Formation

March 9-May 18 "Parables: The Stories of Jesus" Sundays 10:10-11:00 am-ish Fellowship Hall

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

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.

Pastor Spencer Sabbatical Leave

April 28-May 2 at CREDO Pastors Retreat (off-site) May 12-August 20 (16 weeks)

Pastor Stuart Spencer will be away for an extended leave this summer for his Sabbatical. Sabbatical Leave for pastors and church educators is a planned time of spiritual enhancement for ministry and mission. Sabbatical Leave is an extension of the Biblical concept of a Sabbath day and a Sabbath year for renewal.

Read more about what Stuart has planned for his time away on the <u>Church Center event page</u>. Elder Becca Neindorff will confer a blessing upon Stuart during the May 11 worship service. God's blessings to Stuart during this important time of renewal.

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. <u>Items of special need: women's and men's pants, jackets, sweatshirts, sneakers and shoes.</u>

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 <u>karinbmiller49@gmail.com</u> 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.

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. <u>See event page/</u> <u>webstore</u>. **Sale ends May 18.**



CREDO Confirmation class meets with Session April 29

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

Please submit 2025-26 dates/ events/room requests for Staff Summer Planning Meeting to church office

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**. <u>Sign up online</u> 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. <u>Please see our event page</u> 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 Earl Gage in the church office at 856.235.1688, x106.



Friday, June 6

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See you in Sunday School!





Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 4th Bring 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, x116 hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

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

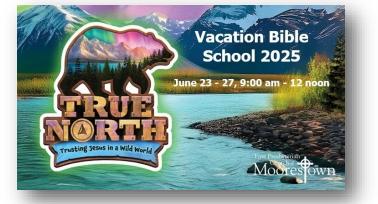
End of Year Parties

- ⇒ Kingdom Kids Party (K-3rd): Wednesday, April 30
- \Rightarrow Last Family Dinner: Wednesday, April 30; \$7.00 per person, pay via Venmo or at the door
- ⇒ Crossing Zone Party (4th-6th): Wednesday, May 7
- ⇒ Youth Groups Picnic (Grades 7-12): Sunday, June 1 (6:00 p.m., church grounds)

CREDO Confirmation Class

Tuesday, April 29

CREDO confirmands present Statements of Faith to Session for membership in FPC Moorestown



Registration is OPEN for Vacation Bible School June 23-27, 2025 "True North" Register online today!

Fpcmoorestown.org/vbs