

**First Presbyterian Church**  
101 Bridgeboro Road  
MAIL: P. O. Box 868  
Moorestown, NJ 08057  
[fpcmoorestown.org](http://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**

**11:00 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](http://www.fpcmoorestown.org)  
or [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).  
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](mailto:jmartin@fpcmoorestown.org)  
856-235-1688, Ext. 133*

Are you receiving our Friday  
e-blast with announcements, Con-  
nections, and upcoming events? If  
not, contact the [church office](#).



# Connections **FPC** Moorestown

**First Presbyterian Church of Moorestown**

**July 13-26, 2025**

## **IT WAS AN AMAZING WEEK AT VBS!**

At Vacation Bible School June 23-27, 2025, our halls were brimming with youngsters from several local communities. Each day, attendees were reminded, with a Bible point:

1. When we wonder, we can trust Jesus
2. When we feel alone, we can trust Jesus
3. When we feel powerless, we can trust Jesus
4. When we need hope, we can trust Jesus
5. When we need help, we can trust Jesus

This year the VBS Mission Project supported our Grace Boutique. This ministry provides items not available on SNAP benefits for those in need.

## **THANK YOU to our incredible Vacation Bible School team members:**

Vivian Allen, Mea Andrea, Holly Asciutto, Rebecca Avallone, Lydia Avallone, Patrick Begley, Sam Caraballo, Jordyn Carter, Carol Mitman Clark, Angel Contreras, Lily Daniel, Shane Danza, Fabio Decarvalho, Helen Dominy, Donna Doulong, Steve Emerson, Pam Engle, Sherrell Fitts, Earl Gage, Cheryl Gaskill, Will Gaskill, Deborah Gerhardt, Naia Gomes, Gabriel Gomes, Madison Goolcharan, Liz Greene, Jean Marie Hanna, Lissa Herman, Meghan Hock, Abrielle James, Victoria James, Susan Kenuk, Alex Krott, Andrew Krott, Owen La Grou, Addison LaMonica, Jenny Legath, Cole Legath, Sam Long, Henry Lundgren, Alison Mackey, Steve Margerum, Emma McNab, Sawyer McNab, Karin Miller, Joe Molloy, Karen Molloy, Tess Murphy, Rose Murphy, Alivia

Nawrocki, Joann Nawrocki, Jonathan Nawrocki, Marina Olsen, Natalie Olsen, Noah Olsen, Kyle Perkowski, Sue Piper, Robert Plant, Melody Ransom, Liam Richards, Lucas Richards, Karina Rotter, Joshua Rotter, Reagan Ruilova, Evan Schad, Allison Shaw, Evan Shaw, Kaitlyn Shaw, Reilly Smagala, Raegan Smagala, Alexandra Strong, Michael Trabulsi, Peg Valora, Hannah Walker, Lydia Walker, Quinn Wenzke-Lundgren, Anne Woolley, Lila Zink, Olivia Zink, and Ava Zink.

We can't wait to see what Jesus does next year! **SAVE THE DATE: VBS will be June 22-26, 2026!**



### Mark Budka Named Director of Outreach

We are delighted to welcome **Rev. Mark Budka** to our staff as the part-time Director of Outreach beginning August 1, 2025. Rev. Budka brings a deep well of pastoral, organizational, and spiritual leadership to this role. He holds a Master of Divinity from Western Seminary and is ordained through the Baptist Resource Network of Pennsylvania and South Jersey. His diverse ministry background includes serving as a missionary in Kenya and Mozambique, as Pastor of Rancocas Valley Baptist Church, and as Chaplain at Wesley Enhanced Living, among other impactful roles. We are excited for the creativity, energy, and thoughtful leadership he will bring as we grow our outreach and mission efforts in fresh and faithful ways.

We will host a **“Meet & Greet”** event on **Sunday, August 3** from 10:15–11:00 AM in Fellowship Hall. Please stop by!

### Joel Krott Retirement Celebration

**Sunday, July 27, 2025**

**9:30 a.m. Combined Worship  
Reception in Miller Commons**

**Joel Krott**, our director of music, will be retiring on Sunday, July 27 after 53 years in music ministry. That day, we will gather for Combined Worship to celebrate Joel and his years teaching and leading our choirs and serving as organist. Worship will be at **9:30 a.m.** in the sanctuary.

- You may bring cards or notes for Joel that day and also write one in the Commons Lobby.
- Please sign up online to bring an item for the reception ([see event page for link](#)).
- Please upload photos of Joel for a slide show! See

***Thank you,  
Mr. Krott!***

### **2025-2026 Rooms & Dates**

Please submit any dates for Fall/Winter events, concerts, committee meetings, and building room requests to the church office by **Tuesday, July 22**.



### Oar You Ready?

Join us for a Paddle Trip to support UrbanPromise on **Friday, August 1**. We have 16 spots available and will **begin at 8:45 a.m.** (anticipate 4-5 hours). Each of the youth-built canoes will be paired with a River Guide. We will finish up with a lunch provided by UrbanPromise. Donation per person \$50, payable online or via check payable to the church. Deadline to register is **July 20**.

### News from the Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden

Our 2025 growing season is underway and we have an opportunity for you to help with the garden! **We welcome harvesters!** Just show up in the evening (Sundays, Wednesdays and/or Fridays) from 7-8 pm-ish to pick the produce and store it in the church kitchen. We harvest through the summer and fall. The produce grows through October and is so appreciated by our local food pantries. Thank you—we are grateful for your help! [See our event page.](#)



### **Summer Prayer Opportunities**

⇒ This summer, join the Prayer Committee for a time of fellowship and prayer for **Prayer on the Porch**. Come pray on the second and fourth Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. on the Van Camp Porch. In case of inclement or hot weather, we will meet comfortably in the Lounge. Contact Pam Engle. Remaining dates:

◆ July 24, August 14 & August 28

⇒ Women's Prayer Event August 23 (see page 3)  
⇒ Wednesday 6:30 a.m. prayer/Zoom (Arlita W.)  
⇒ *Thank you to our youth groups and to everyone who prayed in the July 8 Prayer Vigil for Dave Fauvell (heart surgery)*



### 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.

### Sunday, August 31

Combined 9:30 AM Worship  
(Labor Day weekend)

### Sabbatical Presentation

On **Sunday, August 31**, Stuart Spencer will present a review of his 16-week sabbatical to the congregation. That week is a combined worship Sunday due to the Labor Day weekend, so the presentation will *follow* the **9:30 a.m.** Worship.

### Youth Committee

The Discipling Children and Youth Committee is seeking church members of ALL ages who are willing to share the love of Christ with our young people. Please contact [Cheryl Gaskill](#), chair of the committee, to discuss the opportunities to use your gifts in this life-changing ministry.

### Adult Sunday Series

*Drop In and Discuss*

Sundays 10:10-11:00 am-ish  
Lounge (summer location)

### PW Missions

In August the annual Seeds of Hope Undies Sundays collects socks, underwear and PJ's for Back-to-School donations. The entire church is urged to contribute and Presbyterian Women will deliver donations to the Camden headquarters. Watch for more information this summer.

**Fall Prayer Retreat**  
**October 14-16, 2025**

### Stocking the Blessing Box

Drop any donations for the [Blessing Box](#) on the table in the Commons Lobby. The box is being used by visitors in need every week by those facing food insecurity.



### Summer Schedules

*Connections* prints every two weeks in the summer months. Children's Sunday School and Thursday Prayer Service are on hiatus until September. **Combined Worship 9:30 a.m. on July 27 and Aug. 31.**

**No July Session Meeting;  
see you in August**

### Women's Morning Prayer Event

**Saturday, August 23 ~ 8:00 am**

Ladies, experience the joy and wonder of special time alone with God as we gratefully seek His intent for our lives. 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 including previous attendees as well as first time participants. [Sign up online](#) so we can plan. Event will start in the Lounge then women will find quiet spaces throughout the building to pray. Questions? Call or text [Pam Engle](#) at 609-332-7513.



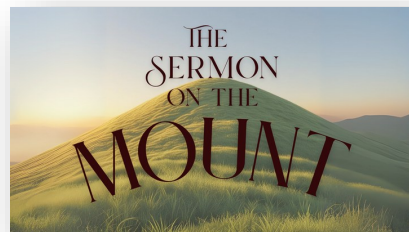
### Music Ministry Discernment and Search Team

We invite the whole congregation to join in a journey to seek God's direction together in a four-phase discernment process. The team will be chaired by Dr. Amit Joshi, a member of our current Music Committee, and this process will unfold in four thoughtful and inclusive phases:

1. Listening & Learning
2. Visioning
3. Designing
4. Decision & Implementation

We encourage you to help shape the future of our music ministry in two meaningful ways: (1) Join the discernment team (applications due by **July 15**) or (2) Participate in a Focus Group or individual interview. Read much more on our [Church Center event page](#).

For questions contact [Wes Allen](#).



**July 27-August 31**  
**Upcoming Sermon Series**

# FAMILY MINISTRY



## Super fun summer children's and youth activities



### NEW: Summer Youth Group Activities

Rising middle schoolers (grade 7-8) through high school (grades 9-12) are invited to come chill at the church on select Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meet up with your friends and make new acquaintances. We can't wait to see you. **Contact:** Cheryl Gaskill

- ♦ Wednesday, July 16: Paint Night @ Church (3rd Flr.)
- ♦ Wednesday, July 30: Pool Party @ Delgados
- ♦ Wednesday, August 13: Lawn Games @ Church
- ♦ Wednesday, August 20: Movie Night @ Church

**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

*And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. - Acts 2:2-4*

For Families and Children:

**Holly Asciutto**

856-235-1688, x116

[hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org](mailto:hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org)

Middle School and High School:

**Cheryl Gaskill**

856-904-3056 call/text

[mybaseballboys@yahoo.com](mailto:mybaseballboys@yahoo.com)



### Family Water Fun Night

Come on out **Wednesday, July 16**, from 6-8 PM for an exciting evening filled with water activities. Stay and play for the duration or just cool off and leave -- it's up to you! Feel free to bring your parents, siblings, and friends along to this family friendly event. Remember to pack your swimsuit, water shoes, towel, and a change of clothes. We look forward to seeing you!

This is a free event but we would like to know who is coming to plan, so please register on the [Church Center event page](#).



**THANK YOU** to everyone who helped with our 2025 Vacation Bible School: *True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World*. It truly takes a village. What a fabulous week! (see page 1)

### Save The Date!

**Bike Rally Night**

**Friday, September 26**

6:30-8:00 p.m. (Church Parking Lot)

Watch for more information soon