#### 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

August 10-23, 2025

# Way of the Week 19: Accept and Don't Cast Stones

(August 10-16, 2025)

#### 19. ACCEPT AND DON'T CAST STONES.

God's love opens the doors of our church to all people. Just as Jesus did, welcome people as they are. It's not up to us to judge. Love unconditionally, and as Christ has received you, receive others.

**Ideas for Action:** Approach someone you normally avoid at church for whatever reason. Make a point to speak to them this week.

# **Stocking the Blessing Box**

Thank you! 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.

# Way of the Week 20: Find Strength in Belonging (August 17-23, 2025)

#### 20. FIND STRENGTH IN BELONGING.

At FPC Moorestown, you're loved and valued. Claim us as your family. Rather than withdrawing, allow struggles and disappointments to deepen your sense of belonging. Pray for chances to bring healing to relationships. Please be patient! God isn't yet finished with us or with you.

Ideas for Action: Is there a disappointment you've been carrying about the church? In prayer, offer it to the Lord and ask for His help in releasing it. If you've been sitting on the sidelines at home, get back in the game by returning to worship and joining a small group, a class or a committee. We need you, and you need us.

# "I was hungry and you gave me food"

If you are interested in joining a team from FPC Moorestown to serve dinner at the Cathedral Kitchen for our friends who are food insecure, we'd love to have you! As a church we would commit to bringing five people to serve dinner from 2:30-5:30 pm one weekday evening a month. Given the complexities of people's schedules, a roster of 15-20 volunteers would insure we would be able to send a team of five each month.

Please contact Karin Miller at (856) 298-3522 or <a href="mailto:karinbmiller49@gmail.com">karinbmiller49@gmail.com</a> for further information.

To learn more, check out Cathedral Kitchen's website at cathedralkitchen.org.

## **Women's 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. Registration online is appreciated BUT ALL LA-DIES AND FRIENDS are welcome even if not registered. Arlita Winston leads the introduction and closing. Questions call or text Pam Engle at 609-332-7513.



# **Undies Sunday August 17**

Presbyterian Women invite you to participate in Undies Sunday on August 17! We're collecting new socks, underwear, and pajamas for Camden children ages 6–16 — specifically those with an incarcerated parent. As you shop for Backto-School supplies, please consider picking up an extra package to help a child in need. Look for the donation box in the Commons Lobby. Let's make a difference — one pair at a time!

# PW Fall Gathering Monday, Sept. 15

Watch for more information!

#### **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.

# **Prayer on the Porch**

Join us on the second and fourth Thursdays at 7:00 pm. We gather on the Van Camp Porch (or the Lounge). Remaining: **Thursday**, **Aug. 14** and **Thursday**, **Aug. 28**.

# Saturday Breakfast with Stuart Sept. 13

Jump into Fall! The Prayer and Discipleship Committee invites everyone to a delicious breakfast on Saturday, Sept. 13th at 9:00 AM. We will welcome Pastor Stuart as our kickoff speaker following a delicious breakfast of eggs, sausage, bacon, pancakes and more! He will be speaking about the importance of prayer in his life and his ministry. monthly breakfasts on the second Saturday of the month will include guest speakers and teachers. PLEASE mark your calendars and plan to attend. Breakfasts will be in Room 3-4; watch for signup sheets. Free will offering is gratefully accepted. Contact: Pam Engle at 609.332.7513 call/text.

# **Beach for a Day**

The Mission Committee is assembling volunteers to help support the Children's Fresh Air Home on Tuesday, August 12. We will be helping with a BBO from UrbanPromise. voungsters Our responsibilities will be meeting the children, helping with the BBQ, going to the beach (optional), or playing miniature golf. This group will be older children (teenagers). Please see our Church Center event page to SIGN UP and for full details of the day. Youth are welcome. As the home is under renovation, we are hosting the day's events at the Historic Hereford Lighthouse, located at 111 N. Central Ave. in North Wildwood. Questions? Contact: Jean Kunkel at jeankunkel215@gmail.com.

### **UrbanPromise Bus Tour of Camden**

Come along on a driving tour of Camden, guided by UrbanPromise alumni and staff. This unique experience offers a chance to gain a deeper understanding of the community's strengths and challenges. Gain insights into the history and spirit of the neighborhoods where UP young people live and grow, seeing the city through the eyes of the families served. UrbanPromise is hosting this as an educational opportunity. There is no charge and there will not be a call for financial support.

The tour will be held on **Monday, August 18** and two tours are available: (1) 9:30–11:00 AM and (2) 11:00 AM–12:30 PM. Register online at <a href="https://urbanpromiseusa.org/events/tour/">https://urbanpromiseusa.org/events/tour/</a>.

# Come Make Music to Glorify God

We're back! And we'd love to meet you! Children's choirs, bell choir and adult choir rehearsals start the week of **Sept. 8-12** and opportunities abound. Contact interim music director Kathy Gunsallus at <a href="mailto:kathy519@comcast.net">kathy519@comcast.net</a> or the church office for information regarding choirs. Choir directors are:

- **Primary Choir:** Kathy Gunsallus
- Junior Choir: Nicole Snodgrass
- Choristers: Linda Lockart
- Chapel Choir: Nicole Snodgrass
- Adult Choir: Linda Lockart
- **Bell Choir:** Kathy Gunsallus
- Contemporary Praise Band: Wes Allen

Meet our talented interim choir directors!

Linda Lockart (Choristers, Adult **Choir)** is a graduate of Westminster Choir College where she studied church music, organ, voice and conducting. It was there that she met her late husband David and a beautiful journey of music making began. She was a church music director for 38 years and was the founding conductor of the Hunterdon County children's choirs. Linda had a private Kindermusik studio, was a national teacher trainer for Kindermusik International for whom she also conducted children's choir recordings. She has travelled to Westminster Abbey, Bristol Cathedral and Jerusalem singing with various choirs. Linda has two children and 4 grandchildren who light up her life.

Nicole Snodgrass (Junior Choir, Chapel Choir) has been the choral director at Ursinus College since 2022 and

recently retired from Cherokee High School in Marlton, where she served as choral director for 25 years. She has been the soprano soloist at historic Old Pine Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia since 1996. Nicole received her B.S. in Music Education from West Chester University and her M.M. in Choral Conducting from Messiah University. Her choirs have sung the National Anthem at the Phillies game, performed at Radio City Music Hall and toured and performed in England, Ireland, San Francisco, New York City, Boston, New Orleans and Charleston, SC.

## Calling all Green Thumbs

Our growing season is underway and 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 especially need volunteers on Sundays and Fridays! August is the

month where we get our greatest volume of produce, but also the month



where lots of people go on vacation. There's no need to sign up ahead of time. Just show up at 7 p.m. at the garden and we will welcome your help harvesting. Have extra produce from your own garden? Leave it in the coolers under the Blessing Box whenever you like. People are stopping by every day to take the produce! See our event page.

# **Drop In and Discuss Series**

Sundays 10:10-11:00 am-ish Lounge (summer location) Beginning Sunday, Sept. 14 "Jonah: The Reluctant Prophet"

## Join our Audio-Visual Team

Are you passionate about audiovisual technology? We are looking for high school students and adults to join our live stream team! We are seeking paid tech operators to assist with Sunday morning live stream and special events. We provide full training. Live stream operators also support weddings, funerals, and concerts, helping those unable to attend experience these meaningful events remotely. You'll gain hands-on experience with vMix software, multi-camera operation, and audio management. Tech operators serve in a rotation, typically every few weeks. If you're interested in this exciting opportunity, contact the church office or Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com.

# **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)

# Check out two special Fall retreat opportunities

See our website or Church Center event pages to register

- Fall Prayer Retreat (Oct. 14 -17; Holy Cross Monastery (NY).
   Registration Due: Sept. 21
- Couples Retreat (Oct. 17-19; Cape May, New Jersey.
   Registration due: October 6



# Fellowship Groups begin Wednesday, September 17!



## **Summer Youth Group Activities**

Rising middle schoolers (grade 7-8) through high school (grades 9-12) are invited to come chill this summer on select Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Meet up with your friends and make new acquaintances!

- ♦ Wednesday, August 13: Lawn Games @ Church
- ♦ Wednesday, August 20: Movie Night @ Church

Contact Youth Committee chair Evan Dempster at <a href="mailto:evan.dempster@gmail.com">evan.dempster@gmail.com</a> or 215.264.3448.

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

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

- Matthew 5:16

For Families and Children:

Holly Asciutto

856-235-1688, ×116

hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org

Middle School and High School: Cheryl Gaskill 856-904-3056 call/text mybaseballboys@yahoo.com



## **Sunday School Leaders 2025-2026**

We are always looking for Sunday volunteers and would love to have you on the team.

Please let <u>Holly Asciutto</u> know if you'd like to help out with children's Sunday School or <u>Wes Allen</u> or Paul Gordon if you're interested in helping with adult education.



#### **REGISTER for 2025-2026 Fellowship Groups!**

Kingdom Kids, Crossing Zone, Middle School Youth Group, High School Youth Group



# Friday, Sept. 26 6:00-7:00 p.m. Church Lot

Church Lot Let's ride!