

101 Bridgeboro Road ● P.O. Box 868 ● Moorestown, NJ 08057 856.235.1688 ● *fpcmoorestown.org*

Rev. Stuart Spencer, Pastor/Head of Staff

Rev. Wes Allen, Associate Pastor





September 21, 2025 ~ 15th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)

*please stand as you are able

Have you checked in for worship today on the Church Center app? Please remember to also **sign** the Friendship pads in the pews and greet those seated near you. **NOTE: Worship announcements begin at 8:55 a.m.**

Welcome & Work of God's People

Rev. Wes Allen

Way of the Week #25: Rejoice Always

25. REJOICE ALWAYS. The Kingdom of God is a party! Let healthy laughter fill our meetings, our meals, and even our worship. Allow the joy of our faith be clearly evident in our speech and on our faces.

Collect Prayer (unison)

God of unending delight, we rejoice in your presence, for your kingdom is a feast of gladness. Fill us with such abundant joy that it overflows into our meetings, our meals, and our worship. May the joy of our faith be a clear and evident witness to all who see us, for Jesus' sake we pray together. Amen.

Music in Preparation for Worship

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

Prelude in C

Krebs

* Call to Worship (Responsive)

Elder Paul Gordon

Friends, let us worship God today, for God is great –

God has blessed us with life, with faith, and with community.

Let us worship God today, for God is good -

God forgives us, and encourages us, and loves us.

Let us worship God today -

Because we are God's people.

Let us worship God.

* Hymn No. 316

For Your Holy Book We Thank You

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Elder Gordon

Holy God, hear our prayer:

For the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;

For the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us;

For the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist;

For the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us;

We pray for the courage to admit our fault,

The strength to amend our actions,

And the hope that your grace awaits us.

Through Christ we pray. Amen.

(Silence for our personal prayers of confession)

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Elder Gordon

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. **Alleluia! Amen.**

* Gloria Patri

*Affirmation of our Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Elder Gordon

Inside Front Cover, Blue Hymnal

Sharing with our Young Disciples: Bible Sunday

Holly Asciutto & Rev. Spencer

Anthem

At the Name of Jesus

Arr. Vaughan Williams

Adult Choir; Linda Lockart, Director

Prayer of Intercession and the Lord's Prayer ('debts')

Rev. Allen

Choral Amen

Adult Choir; Linda Lockart, Director

Offertory



Thank you for blessing FPC Moorestown with your giving as we Grow God's Kingdom. Your offerings and donations allow us to sustain our church programs year-round. Donate easily from your device via the Church Center app for your tithes, offerings and other fund contributions. If you're watching via live stream, you can give online right now as well! To mail offerings, send to P.O. Box 868, Moorestown, NJ 08057.

Offertory Music

Kathy Gunsallus, Piano

A Song of Trust

Amanda Schkeeper, Soloist

Schubert

* Doxology No. 809

Sermon Rev. Stuart Spencer

"No Trailer Hitch on the Hearse"

Scripture: Luke 12: 13-21 (Pew Bible NT p. 74) **Sermon Series:** *Stepping Up to Generosity*

* Hymn No. 579

I Surrender All

Music in Preparation for Service

Kathy Gunsallus, Organ

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord Willan

* Benediction Rev. Spencer

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Worship flowers are given to the glory of God.

9:00 a.m. Worship Ministry

Beadle: Elder Paul Gordon; Audio Technician: Harris Ransom; Live Stream Technician: Jonathan Nawrocki; Ushers: Dave Rebuck, Brett Couvillion, Joe Molloy; Flower Arrangers: Lynne Demmerly and Karen Mason; Deacons 3rd Sunday Flower Arranger: JoAnn Reynik; Deacons 3rd Sunday Flower Deliverer: Mike McNeil; Trustee Greeter: Pete Honeyford; Sanctuary Greeter: Stephen Minister Susan Hill; Deacon Greeters/Welcome Centers: Deacons Susan Horn and Owen Dietz; Bagel Pickup: Sue Piper or Sherrell Fitts; Coffee Hospitality: Sue Piper and Sherrell Fitts; Nursery Care: Chelsea Margerum

Ways Personal Reflections

September 28, 2025 - March 21, 2026

For the next Ways round, the fifteenth round of our culture statements, Pastors Spencer and Allen invite congregation members to write down how they are thankful for a particular Way. What Way has most impacted your life? Which Way are you most grateful for? Why? Does one speak to you?

Submissions are to be just a couple sentences and will be shared verbally in worship by the pastors and (if space permits) printed in the worship guides. Kids and youth are absolutely encouraged to take part!

Please sign up on the <u>Church Center event page</u> for the personal reflection you wish to provide or contact Jan Martin at <u>imartin@fpcmoorestown.org</u> or 856.235.1688, x133.

Work of God's People (See Connections, eblast, website and Church Center app for details)

<u>Communion Workshop</u> -- Sunday, September 28 from 10:15-11:00 a.m. (Room 6) as we prepare for World/First Communion Sunday, October 5.

Church Directory -- We are making plans for a new pictorial directory, produced in-house for convenience and simplicity. There will be three (3) opportunities for individuals and families to gather at the church for a portrait with a professional photographer: Sunday, October 12 (Consecration Sunday): 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 14: 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Wednesday, October 15: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Please sign up on the Sign Up Genius link, or with the church office at (856) 235-1688.

On September 12, we celebrated the 137th anniversary of our church's founding on September 12, 1888. Watch your mail for a letter from Pastor Stuart and the Stewardship Committee. Birthday gifts to the <u>September 12</u> endowment are welcomed online, through the Church Center app, in the offering plate or via U.S. mail.

- Are you interested in serving on the search team for our new Youth Director? Great! Contact Wes Allen.
- See event page and website for an update from Music Ministry Discernment Team



K-12 weeknight fellowship groups began the week of **Wed. Sept. 17**. Register for Kingdom Kids (K-3rd), Crossing Zone (4th-6th), Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th), and High School Youth Group (9th-12th) and <u>REGISTER online</u> **please.** Family Dinner is Wednesdays (5:45-6:45 pm), \$8.00 per person for this catered meal. Pre-pay Family Dinner too. See 2025-26 event page.

Throughout September, the **Grace Boutique** is requesting donations of select items to restock its depleted shelves. Please help if you can. September Donations: baby diapers size 4 or 5, full size toothpaste, deodorant, cleaning liquid, feminine hygiene products. Please drop off in baskets outside Grace Boutique.

Choir rehearsals began Sept. 8-12 and there's room for YOU. Choirs are open to the community and the program is free. Visit our <u>Church Center event page</u> for details or contact Alison Mackey at (856) 235-1688, x113.

Concert News: The <u>Howard Gospel Choir</u> returns for a gospel concert **Friday, October 3 (7:00 PM)**. No tickets, free will offering will be received. Open to the community. *Volunteers are needed to help provide a dinner after the concert for the choir.* Please contact Jan Martin in the church office if you can help.

NEW: Fall Adult Study Starts Sept. 24: On Wednesday nights this fall, we will read, discuss and study 12-15 scriptures of the 16 Chapters that make up the *Didache*. These are scriptures that Jesus spoke and used before the Bible to instruct the apostles. Sign up online. Enjoy Family Dinner first at 5:45 p.m. too (\$8.00 per person)

It's coming! Save The Date: Sunday, October 12 is Consecration Sunday. Please plan now to attend worship that Sunday for a COMBINED 9:30 a.m. service in the sanctuary as church members *Step up to the Plate*. You're encouraged to come in your favorite baseball attire! WATCH YOUR MAIL for information and your 2026 Estimate of Giving card as well as 2026 Capital Campaign Pledge Card. We will gather for a covered dish brunch to celebrate God's generosity; please bring the following dish to share: <u>Last Name A-L</u>: Main Dish; <u>Last Name M-Q</u>: Side Dish or Salad; <u>Last Name R-T</u>: Breads or Rolls; <u>Last Name U-Z</u>: Dessert. Wear your favorite baseball attire that day.

NEW: <u>Inquirers Class</u> for those interested in learning more about our church and possibly joining. This four-part class begins **Wed. Oct. 8**; reach out to Wes Allen at (856) 235-1688 if you're interested or <u>sign up online</u>.