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

II: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

September 7-13, 2025

Way of the Week 23:
Worship with your
Whole Heart

(September 7-13, 2025)

23. WORSHIP WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART.

Your life is meant to be an act of worship. Every breath, action, and thought flows from God and can bring him glory. Praise God everywhere and embrace the opportunities to regularly worship with your church family.

Ideas for Action: Every morning this week, recite the Jesus Creed: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12: 29 – 31)





We're Kicking Off 2025-26 Programming!

Our 2025-2026 programming year officially kicks off **Sunday, Sept. 7** as we welcome everyone back after busy summers for Kickoff Sunday. Reconnect with friends and learn about the wonderful things planned for our year.

- 9:00 am Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 10:15-11:00 am Kickoff Sunday Presentation (Fellowship Hall)
- Come hear what will be offered this year for Children's Sunday School and Adult Spiritual Formation. Children grades PreK-6th Grade will meet their teachers and see their classrooms. Learn about a planned Sunday School class for middle school and high school students
- 11:00 am Contemporary Worship (Miller Commons)

Commissioning Teachers and Small Group Leaders. We would love to have you on the team.

September 12 Pew envelopes will be available for celebrating the 137th Birthday of the church. (see event page).

Grace Boutique Collections

For the month of September, we are collecting select items to restock the shelves of the Grace Boutique. Please donate one or more if you can. Leave in the baskets outside the Grace Boutique. Traffic is in creasing for this ministry which is changing lives. Grace Boutique items needed for September:

- baby diapers size 4 or 5
- full size toothpaste
- deodorant
- cleaning liquid
- feminine hygiene products

Choir Rehearsals Begin

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 kathy519@comcast.net or the church office for information regarding choirs. Choir directors are:

- Primary Choir (K-1st Grade): Kathy Gunsallus
- Junior Choir (2nd-4th): Nicole Snodgrass
- Choristers (5th-8th): Linda Lockart
- Chapel Choir (9th-12th): Nicole Snodgrass
- Adult Choir: Linda Lockart
- Bell Choir: Kathy Gunsallus
- Contemporary Praise Band: Wes Allen

Meet our talented interim choir directors. We're so pleased to have them on our music team. Learn more and sign up on our music page on our website or our Center event page. Or call Alison in the church office at (856) 235-1688.

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

New: 2 to 1 Couples Class Begins September 14

The 2 to1 Couples Class is designed for young couples trying to navigate the challenges of marriage and parenthood through the lens of our Christian faith. Stop on in for fellowship and study as we learn to grow closer to God, our spouses, our children, and each other! Class will meet Sunday mornings during the Sunday School session (10:00-11:15 a.m.) and begins Sunday, Sept. 14. This fall, the class will be led by Lorenzo and Kelly Eagles. Hope to see you there.

Saturday Breakfast Sept. 13

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 hot breakfast! He will be speaking about the importance of prayer in his life and his ministry. These 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.

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.

Help our Harvesting Team

The Mustard Seed Cooperative Garden welcomes new harvesters! Just show up Sundays, Wednesdays and/or Friday evenings to pick the produce and store it in the church kitchen. We particularly need volunteers on Sundays and Fridays. No need to sign up—just show up at **6:30 p.m.** at the garden and we'll show you the ropes. Have extra produce from your own garden? Great. 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.



<u>Sign up</u> for Children's Sunday School 2025-26

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 so families can experience these meaningful events remotely. Gain hands-on experience with vMix software, multicamera operation, and audio management. Tech operators rotate every few weeks. Contact Steve Drzaszcz at steve@gotsteve.com.

Sunday, September 7 Kickoff Sunday

Our 2025-2026 programming year officially gets underway on **Sunday, Sept. 7** as we welcome everyone back to church after busy summers. Special happenings are planned as we begin another active year learning and growing together.

Reconnect with friends and enjoy two distinct styles of worship. Enjoy this gift of gathering together on Sundays for worship, study, music, prayer and fellowship.

- 9:00 am Traditional Worship
- 10:15-11:00 am <u>Kickoff Sunday</u>
 <u>Presentation</u> (Fellowship Hall)
 Catch a glimpse into what will be offered this year for Children's Sunday School and Adult Spiritual Formation.
- Children grades PreK-6th Grade will meet their teachers and see their classrooms (10:15 AM)
- 11:00 am Contemp. Worship
- Commissioning of Teachers and Small Group Leaders (both services). We are always looking for Sunday education volunteers and would love to have you on the team. Please let Holly Asciutto know if you'd like to help out with children's Sunday School or Wes Allen or Paul Gordon if you're interested for adult education.
- Pew envelopes will be available
 Sept. 7 for celebrating the
 137th Birthday of the Church
 September 12 (see event page).
 Sept. 12 envelopes are also in offering boxes and on the online giving drop down.

New adult classes begin September 14

Adult Spiritual Formation will begin the year with a six-week study of the book of *Jonah, God's Reluctant Prophet,* beginning **Sept. 14** and continuing through Sunday, Oct. 26 (with a break for Consecration Sunday October 12). This study will be led by Lissa Herman and Steve Shaffer. **Register** for all classes online.

- ⇒ On Kickoff Sunday Sept. 7, learn more about what will be offered for the coming year.
- ⇒ The Jonah study will begin **Sunday, Sept. 14** from 10:10-11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.
- ⇒ The 2 to1 Couples Class is designed for young couples trying to navigate the challenges of marriage and parenthood through the lens of our Christian faith. Stop on in for fellowship and study (see page 2).

Stocking the Blessing Box

Drop any donations for the <u>Blessing</u> <u>Box</u> on the table in the Commons Lobby. The box is being used by visitors in need <u>every</u> week by those facing food insecurity.

Happy 137th Birthday
First Presbyterian Church of
Moorestown
September 12, 2025

Howard University Gospel Choir Concert Friday, October 3 (7:00 p.m.)

Helpers needed to provide dinner for the choir following the concert; contact Jan Martin (856) 235-1688

Thank You to our Sunday School Teachers!

Pre-K-Kindergarten (Room 13)Mrs. Jenny Legath & Mrs. Karen
Alecxih

1st-2nd grades (Room 10) Mrs. Melody Ransom

3rd-4th grades (Room 7)Miss Donna Doulong & Mrs. Lori
Bell

5th-6th grades (Hayes Room)Mr. Paul Gordon, & Mrs. Kourtney de la Cruz

Middle School/High School Class Rotating teacher team

PW Fall Gathering Monday, September 15th

All women of the Church are encouraged to invited to kick off the new year for Presbyterian Women. Enjoy delicious desserts and hear about what's planned for the upcoming year. Event is free. Meets in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m.

- Thank Offering; Begin Horizons Bible Study "Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ"
- Register today online or through the Church Center app





Kids: Sunday School Meet and Greet September 7, Kickoff Sunday



REGISTER for 2025-2026 K-12 Fellowship Groups!

- Kingdom Kids (K-3rd)
- Crossing Zone (4th-6th)
- Middle School Youth Group (7th-8th)
- High School Youth Group (9th-12th)

Groups begin Wednesday, Sept. 17
Family Dinner begins Wednesday, Sept. 17
Sign up online and through the Church Center app

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 that wonderful day when the Lord gives his people rest from sorrow and fear, from slavery and chains.

- Isaiah 14:3, NLT

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



So you ready to get slimed? Crud Wars is Sunday, Sept. 14

This fun event is our traditional kick off for students in middle school (grades 7, 8) and high school youth groups (grades 9-12). Come for an incredibly cruddy and messy set of games on **Sunday, Sept. 14**. We will meet in the field next to the main parking lot. Wear clothes you don't care about. Questions? Contact Youth Committee chair Evan Dempster at evan.dempster@gmail.com or 215.264.3448. **Sign up online on our Church Center event page.**

Sign up for Children's Sunday School

Meet and Greet Sept. 7 ~ Classes begin Sept. 14

Bible Sunday is September 21st (please register by September 11th)

On **Sunday, Sept. 21st**, children entering third grade will be receiving their Bibles during worship as a gift from their church. Bible Sunday is a special day in the life of our young people. Bibles will be presented at both services. If you would like your third grader to receive a Bible, please sign up online or right through the Church Center app (Signups), or email Holly at hasciutto@fpcmoorestown.org or Jean Marie at jmhanna@fpcmoorestown.org. Please indicate:

- Child's name as you would like it to appear
- Which worship service the child/children will attend

Communion Workshop

Sunday, September 28 10:15-11:00 a.m. ~ Room 6 World/First Communion Sunday, October 5